Govendo places Mondala on home confinement. PAGE 2
House yanks back controversial sugar bill. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

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902 TALKS BEGIN:

Federal, local panels agree on agenda

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and the Department of Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Esther Kia'aina agreed yesterday to the scope of 902 Consultations between them and their respective federal and local panels, in all-day meetings at the White House yesterday.

They agreed to focus in on the issues of the expiration of the CNMI-only transition worker program in 2019 and U.S. Department of Defense activities in the CNMI, according to a statement from the Interior.

Torres and Kia'aina, the special representatives for the CNMI and President Barack Obama, respectively, also agreed that these consultations would include site visits in the Northern Mariana Islands and subsequent official consultations in August, September, and October, DOI said.

The process will culminate in a Final Report to Obama in December, DOI said.

"With our two principles, Labor Secretary Edith Deleon Guerrero and Public Lands Secretary Marianne Teregeyo, and the rest of our team," Torres said in a separate statement yesterday, "we were able to present to the federal government a clearer

See FEDERAL on Page 4

CONTROBUTED PHOTO

Department of Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Esther Kia'aina, left, and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres pose as the CNMI and federal government began Section 902 Consultations yesterday in Washington, D.C.

Chamber holds forum on contract worker issue

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce presented a panel of experts at a symposium yesterday for workers and employers affected by the federal government's cap on contract workers allowed in the CNMI this fiscal year.

A panel of experts—attorneys Nelson Xu and Bruce Mailman and IT&E human resource manager Shirley Dotts—spoke on visa programs, conversion options, and common

See CHAMBER on Page 4

DENNIS B. CHAN

From left, Attorney Nelson Xu, IT&E human resources manager Shirley Dotts, and attorney Bruce Mailman led a panel of immigration and labor issues held by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at the Pacific Islands Club yesterday.

Westpac acts on CNMI request to help with sea turtle and shark issues

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council yesterday responded to the request by acting governor Victor B. Hocog for assistance to address sea turtle regulations impacting the people of the CNMI.

Hocog

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) recently divided the world's green sea turtles into distinct population segments (DPSs) and moved the Endangered Species Act (ESA) listing of green sea turtles found in the CNMI and Guam from a threatened to an endangered status. Green sea turtles are traditional food for indigenous communities throughout the Pacific. The new listing impedes aspirations for a cul-

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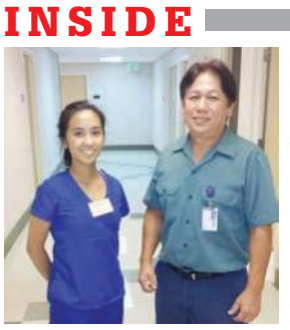
INSIDE



LOCAL
Marianas High School alumna Jill Ann Arada is spending her summer volunteering at the Commonwealth Health Center.

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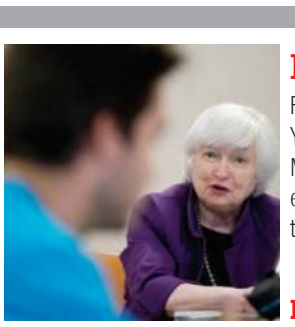

BUSINESS
Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen went out of her way Monday to stress that the U.S. economy appears fundamentally solid.

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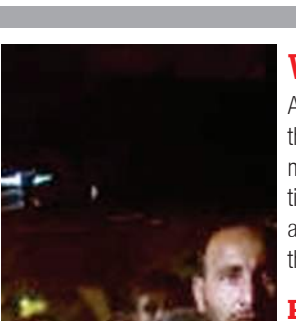

WORLD
As Iraqi security forces tighten their grip on the outskirts of militant-held Fallujah allegations of human rights violations are surfacing on both sides of the operation.

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Local

WHILE MOTION TO STAY EXECUTION OF JAIL TIME UNDER ADVISEMENT:

Govendo places Mondala on home confinement

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Former Office of Aging director Rose DLG. Mondala and her counsel, Loren Sutton, emerge from the courtroom of Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo after a hearing yesterday on Mondala's motion to stay the execution of the one-year prison sentence slapped against her. Govendo placed Mondala under home confinement as he also placed the motion under advisement.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo yesterday placed under advisement former Office of Aging director Rose DLG. Mondala's motion to stay the execution of a one-year prison term slapped against her, as he ordered her under home confinement.

Govendo issued the order after hearing the parties' arguments and the testimony of Department of Corrections Commissioner Georgia Cabrera, who assured that DOC can provide adequate medical care to the 71-year-old Mondala.

Govendo said while under home confinement, Mondala is only allowed to leave her house if she is going to church, hospital, and drug store.

The judge suggested to defense attorney Loren Sutton to file instead a motion for reconsideration of the sentencing order.

Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley, counsel for the government, informed the court that the Commonwealth requested that Cabrera review Mondala's health issues described in Dr. Vicente S. Aldan's medical condition letter, and prepare a document stating whether or not DOC is equipped to care for Mondala during her incarceration.

Baisley said Cabrera wrote a letter to Govendo last June 2 in response to the court's concern.

In the letter, Cabrera stated that although Aldan's letter states that Mondala has a number of health conditions and requires numerous medications on a daily basis, she did not see any information that indicates to her that DOC would be unable to meet her medical needs if she is incarcerated.

Cabrera noted that DOC has housed prisoners with a variety of medical needs in the past.

"Overall, based on these prior experiences and Mrs. Mondala's current medical conditions as I understand them, her situation does not appear to be of such a nature that the department would be unable to provide her with adequate medical care," the commissioner said.

In her testimony, Cabrera said DOC currently has prisoners who are sickly and elderly.

Cabrera said currently, there are 11 female inmates at DOC and that there are two female Corrections officers at any given shift.

Cabrera said with respect to prisoners under medication, DOC has a medication chart that the officers would follow.

She also disclosed that DOC now has a full-time nurse and there is also a doctor at the Commonwealth Health Center who is available for DOC.

In response to Govendo's question, Cabrera said at present DOC has no female inmate who is over 70 years old.

The commissioner said the nurse can monitor Mondala's blood sugar if she will be incarcerated.

She said inmates with medications are being checked periodically.

Mondala told the court she checked her own blood sugar five times a day.

Mondala said when she was detained at DOC, she was scared because DOC officers don't know what to do when a female inmate had a medical problem and she almost died.

Govendo said the CNMI is a nation of diabetic patients. He said people like to eat two cups of rice each during breakfast, lunch, and dinner, plus "six packs" [of beer].

Mondala said there are 8,000 diabetics monitored on the island, including her and Govendo.

Govendo admitted he is indeed a diabetic and that's why he knows about these things.

Govendo said he watches his sugar, "very, very carefully."

The judge then stated that he is placing the motion to stay under advisement and will issue a written order.

Govendo said he agrees with everything that then-associate judge David A. Wiseman stated in imposing a one-year imprisonment sentence on Mondala.

However, he said, Mondala's situation due to her health condition is more complicated.

Govendo said rice is really a killer.

Govendo cited that before World War II, there was no report that a Chamorro or a Carolinian had diabetes. He said it's only after rice and Spam were introduced when people started to get diabetes.

The judge then stated that maybe there were already people with diabetes before, but nobody knew about it and they just died.

Sutton said putting Mondala in jail with her numerous medical conditions poses a very dangerous situation for her.

Govendo said after examining Cabrera, she's very candid that there is no female inmate at DOC with age over 70 years old.

Govendo said putting Mondala in jail would make her the most monitored inmate in the history of CNMI DOC.

The judge then asked Baisley if the government's position is still agreeing to the one-year prison term when its original recommendation is home confinement.

Baisley said his personal opinion is to put Mondala on house arrest or home confinement.

However, Baisley said, Wiseman in sentencing Mondala already considered the health issue and that the Office of the Attorney General has no business in questioning the judge's discretion.

The prosecutor said they did not see any error in Wiseman's order.

Last Feb. 25, Mondala pleaded guilty to one count of forgery and one count of use of public supplies, time, and personnel for campaign activities. The charges stemmed from using the Aging Office's funds and materials for the needs of the Covenant Party during the 2009 elections and to build a fence at her house in Kagman.

Last May 18, Wiseman slapped Mondala with a one-year prison term.

Wiseman said he has reviewed the doctor's report stating the numerous illnesses Mondala has and the medication being administered.

The judge said he has taken this factor into consideration in sentencing the defendant.

However, Wiseman said, a medical condition although can and will mitigate the sentence, "it will not cancel it out."

Mondala then filed a motion to stay execution of the prison term pending the outcome of her appeal to the CNMI Supreme Court.

Sutton argued that his client is not a flight risk, has serious and life threatening health problems, and is no threat to the public.

Sutton recommended a home confinement pending the outcome of their appeal.

Baisley said the Commonwealth sticks to its position that the court should deny the motion as Mondala has not raised a substantial question of law or fact that Wiseman was in error that likely to result in reversal.

Last May 31, Govendo granted for a week a stay of the execution of the one-year prison term. Mondala was supposed to start serving the prison term last June 1.

At the May 31 hearing, Govendo stated he needs to conduct legal research on the issue and wants more information whether DOC has enough female staff who could watch Mondala.

Govendo also ordered the parties to come back yesterday for the continuation of the hearing on the defendant's motion to stay.

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Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Printing funded by the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration.

House yanks back controversial sugar bill

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives voted unanimously yesterday to recall a controversial bill to tax sugar-sweetened beverages, powders, and syrups from the desk of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

» Governor had until June 11 to veto or approve the bill

Torres had until June 11 to veto or approve the bill before automatically becoming law.

All 17 members present voted in favor of Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro's (R-Saipan) motion to recall the bill, which would have taxed these sugar products 4 cents per ounce.

Ogumoro is the author of the bill, or House Bill 19-99. In passing the Legislature, the bill pitted health and business groups against each other, with business people calling the bill "excessive" and proponents touting it as measure to help combat non-communicable disease in the CNMI.

Ogumoro

While some believe NMI Constitution does not prescribe powers to lawmakers to recall their bill once in the hands of the governor, lawmakers pointed to their House rules, which allow them to make such a motion. A quick look at Commonwealth code on actions on legislation by the governor, though, shows no such option. The law presents options to veto, sign, the bill, or let it lapse into law, once a bill has been transmitted, and a deadline to act on these options, among others.

Still, the Torres administration indicated its intent to follow through on the recall, which has been seen a courtesy that governor's give to lawmakers who want to avoid looming vetoes of their bills.

"While this bill has been recalled, it does not mean we should stop having the necessary discussions about the health and welfare of our community," said Torres in a statement yesterday. "I want to make it clear that it is a priority of this administration to promote a healthy and prosperous community and I will genuinely offer my assistance to the Legislature and the stakeholders in creating legislation that offers comprehensive solutions to the health problems affecting our people."

Guy Pudney, resident manager of Marpac Inc., one of the groups against the bill, said yesterday the cost of the bill would have been passed on to other products just to make up for revenues lost from soft drinks.

"It's definitely a good sign that they did at least listen to some of our concerns. It is encouraging," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Saipan Tribune tried but failed to obtain comments from proponents of the bill yesterday.

Jurors empanelled in trial of couple accused of harboring 2 illegal aliens

A federal jury trial began yesterday of a couple accused of harboring two illegal Chinese aliens in exchange for money.

As of yesterday afternoon, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona completed the selection of jurors who will decide the case of Francisco Tydingco and Lili Zhang Tydingco.

The trial will resume today, Wednesday, at 8am. The parties are expected to deliver their opening statements before calling in witnesses.

Assistant U.S. attorney Russell H. Lorfing, counsel for the government, is prosecuting the case. Defense counsels Bruce Berline and Benjamin Petersburg are counsel for Lili Zhang Tydingco. Defense attorney Steven Pixley is counsel for Francisco Tydingco.

Manglona

On Monday, Manglona denied the U.S. Probation's petition for action on conditions of pre-trial release of Francisco Tydingco.

Manglona allowed Francisco Tydingco to continue to remain on pretrial release. The judge admonished him and instructed him to submit to a drug test daily prior to the start of trial.

U.S. Probation Officer Specialist Maria C. Cruz on Thursday asked the court to issue a summons for Francisco Tydingco to appear at an order to show cause hearing to determine whether or not his pre-trial release should be modified or revoked.

Francisco Tydingco was arrested on Dec. 29, 2015, for harboring and was released from custody on Jan. 6, 2016, with many conditions, including drug testing and curfew restriction.

Cruz disclosed that last May 24, Francisco Tydingco appeared for a random drug test at Marianas Counseling Services, and the specimen tested presumptive positive for methamphetamine.

Cruz said upon questioning, Franscisco Tydingco admitted smoking methamphetamine on May 21, and signed an admission form.

Cruz said the defendant also failed to appear for scheduled drug testing on May 23, 28, and 31, 2016.

A federal grand jury has indicted the Tydingco couple for allegedly receiving money to harbor two illegal Chinese aliens, including a child they enrolled at a public school.

The indictment charged the Tydingcos with two counts of harboring illegal alien.

According to the indictment, beginning Sept. 28, 2013, and continuing through Feb. 19, 2015, the Tydingcos in reckless disregard of the fact that a minor child had come to and remained in the U.S. in violation of law, "did knowingly and intentionally conceal, harbor, or shield from detection," the child, "in any place, including any building, for the purpose of commercial advantage and private financial gain."

Beginning July 25, 2014, and continuing Oct. 10, 2014, the Tydingcos allegedly did the same offense to conceal, harbor, or shield the child.

According to Homeland Security Investigations Task Force officer Jesse Dubrall, the child's purported uncle stated in an interview that he paid Lili Tydingco $7,000 in exchange for helping him enter into a fake marriage and obtain a green card.

Dubrall said the parents of the child admitted that they agreed to pay Lili Tydingco between $15,000 and $20,000 to take their child to Saipan and get her a green card. ***(Fernadie de la Torre)***

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‘Caretakers also need a break’

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Family members who are taking care of their relatives who are disabled or have chronic disease also need to take a break and that’s why the Commonwealth Respite Service Program was launched in 2004.

CRSP, which is under Ayuda Network Inc., was created under CNMI Public Law 14-36 where it gives assistance to families by providing caregivers or caretakers so they could take a break in tending to their sick relative.

“People who take care of their sick or bed ridden relatives also need some time off. This is where CRSP comes in, by providing assistance in having professional caregivers or nurses take their place for at least four to six hours,” said Ayuda Network Inc. executive director Diana Camacho at yesterday’s Rotary Club of Saipan meeting where she served as guest speaker.

“Stress is a factor in not getting enough rest. Having a couple of hours break would give the individual taking care of their family member time to do other house chores, spend time with their kids or spouse, and accompany their relative in their medical appointments.”

CRSP currently has a voucher program issued to primary health care providers and there are 76 professional caregivers on the island that charge $150 an hour, nurses that also assist the patients with their medicines, or $50 just to sit and mingle with the client.

There are 1,000 cases that need assessment here in the CNMI where 88 percent said they would want to avail of the program, which has a waiting list. The government, however, only allots $53,000 to fund the program.

“That amount is only for our one month fund. I can walk to the Legislature and ask for additional funding or I could apply for federal grant but I’m not a grant writer. That’s why we’re hoping if we could also get help from other organizations like the Rotary,” said Camacho.

She added that they also partnered with the Northern Marianas College Nursing Club in providing training and workshops to learn how to take care of a client. They also concluded with a respite workshop last Friday.

“We need your support and from the private sector. We are looking for alternative sources of our funds to help the families who want to avail of the program,” said Camacho.

The Ayuda Network was established in 1992 with the mission of serving, supporting and advancing the CNMI people’s interest, meet human needs, and critical social issues. It is an alliance that is working to have a safe, healthy, cohesive, and just community.

CHAMBER

From Page 1

misconceptions in the permitting process to a crowd at the Pacific Islands Club’s Charley Cabaret yesterday.

The breached cap and the 10-day window provided by the federal government for workers affected and their families to leave after their permits expire is a continuing concern, and is expected to force over a thousand workers, not including their families, to leave the Commonwealth as early as May until October.

Mami Ikeda, a contract worker who finds her profession in helping process permits for different clients, has her permit expire in September. She said she was about to prepare to submit her petition but was cutoff by the announced May deadline.

“Now I am trying to see if anything will change for the people who missed the cap,” she said.

Ikeda came back to Saipan in 2009, but her whole family has been on island since she was in the fourth grade, in the late 1970s.

“My parents had business here. My brothers stayed here for 40 years. They now are all passed. When I came back in 2009, contract worker was the only way I can stay here so I had no chance. They passed away. They were CNMI permanent residents,” she said.

Ikeda has also started a page on Facebook called “Faces of CW” to share the group of affected workers’ concerns.

Asked how she felt knowing she had to leave in September, she said, “I can’t. I can’t.”

“My dad and brother are both buried in Tanapag and I have a business here and I have a cat to look after. I don’t have my own family but I just cannot leave.”

Another affected person, employer Sylvan Tudela of Chelu Photos, runs a three-man photography and video business that depends on the skills of small staff he has. One of his employees’ permit expires in September, meaning that he will have to send this employee back to his home country and hope a permit can be approved in time.

“My company is a three-person company. It’s a very small business. I’m a local business owner and work by myself in this industry. I need people to work with me,” he said.

“It’s hard for me to find people with the talent like what I have with my employees right now. Not just the talent, but the know-how, the experience…It’s very daunting for me because I could lose a lot of clients just for that one person.

“Our jobs are based on recording people’s live, recording people’s most important events,” Tudela said. Chelu Photos does photography and video for weddings and other events. “It will be really hard for me to do what I am offering now if I lost that one person. I don’t know what I’d do.”

Tudela said the symposium yesterday was enlightening. He said the avenues presented as options, though, like other visa class options, we’re not easy tasks and appear more expensive. It’s also a lot more paperwork, he added.

“So it’s not going to be any easier for a small business person like myself to try and survive something like this,” he said. “I am not giving up hope but it just makes it harder for me to do my job.”

The symposium had attorney Nelson Xu speak on various types of visa program, attorney Bruch Mailman speak on strategies for securing and maintaining labor force, and Shirley Dotts, human resource manager at IT&E, speak on common misconceptions and mistakes from the employers perspective.

Xu says that he and Mailman both are in the opinion that parole—for employees with visas expiring before Oct. 1—“is not going to work,” for companies that might try this route.

“That is not an option because for parole in place to work—according to U.S. immigration, people we talk to—the person must not be granted any U.S. visas. So if the person has a CW visa, now expired, they are not eligible for parole. So that’s out.”

Xu believes there are very limited options for the affected to continue working on island without first leaving.

“Our recommendation is to always not leave any room for misinterpretation, so that there visa status would not be jeopardized,” Xu said, who works at Bauman, Kondas, and Xu, LLC based out of Guam.

“Our firm would recommend that people leave and then come back and then apply for the new CW visas with the starting date of Oct. 1 and then come back so you don’t leave any misinterpretation” and “confusion to [U.S.] immigration and give them a reason to deny the CW” visa.

He understands that many don’t want to leave but thinks it might be the better option.

Xu says there are rules they are still trying to clarify as to whether employees or employers can use that 10-day window to leave after expiration as a “bridge” between the expiration date and the start date of the next visa, but says that is still not clear. “And when it’s not very clear, I’d like to play it safe. I think I would recommend them to leave and apply now” and “try to get the new one [permit] as soon as possible” before cap space is used up for next fiscal year.

“Then you are out for even a longer period of time,” he added. “That is kind of a risk.”

On transitioning to other visa categories

Xu said the No. 1 thing for those with expiring visas to do is to look at themselves and see if there is any possibility of converting to a different visa without leaving.

This could be to an H-visa, or any other visa, he said. And it’s very important to look at family based petitions, he added, whether they are family, relatives, immediate family U.S. citizens, to apply for in the future or very soon, before they choose to leave.

“All these options have to be exhausted. They probably need some professional help. It’s very complicated. We need to look at every option. Then if there is no other way to go then they have to leave,” he said.

FEDERAL

From Page 1

picture of our positions regarding the proposed military projects on our islands, as well as the current issues surrounding the CW program and our workforce.”

“Overall, it was a productive meeting with honest discussions,” he added.

Torres said that on issues regarding the military buildup, they met with Pete Potochney, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Basing, who is also Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations and Environment

On issues regarding labor and immigration, they met with Seth Stodder, Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Border, Immigration, and Trade Policy, Torres said.

“I am pleased that the CNMI Governor Torres and other members of his team were able to present position papers on issues important to the leaders and people of the Northern Mariana Islands,” Kia’aina said in the DOI statement. “The objective of these 902 Consultations is to provide an avenue for high level discussions on the issues of immigration, labor, and U.S. national security interests between U.S. and CNMI officials.”

“The Covenant Agreement between the CNMI and the United States Government is a significant and unique obligation within the American political landscape requiring open communication and real cooperation,” said Torres in the DOI statement. “I sincerely appreciate President Obama’s agreement to start and the work of his Special Representative Esther Kia’aina in opening these discussions at this important time in the history of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. We look forward to continuing both the dialogue and search for ways to improve our relationship with the United States. “

Torres is also set to meet with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Director Leon Rodriguez and Sen. Lisa Murkowski this week.

Known as 902 Consultations, the discussions are authorized by Section 902 of the Covenant to establish the CNMI in political union with the United States of America, which provides that the government of the United States and the government of the Northern Mariana Islands will consult regularly on all matters affecting the relationship between them, not less frequently than every 10 years.

The last 902 Consultations occurred in 2007, some nine years ago.

WESTPAC

From Page 1

tural take.

The council yesterday said it will undertake efforts to work with NMFS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and state and territorial governments in the recovery planning process for the newly designated DPSs in the region. Green sea turtles in American Samoa were also moved from threatened to endangered, while the Hawaii green sea turtle remained listed as threatened despite indications that the species may be recovered.

The council will ask NMFS and FWS to work with Guam and CNMI governments to determine the nesting origin of the foraging green turtle populations in the Mariana Archipelago. The council noted that the DPS determination focused on the nesting populations and the Status Review Report did not identify the source populations for the foraging juvenile turtles around Guam and CNMI. NMFS and FWS are both members of the council, and NMFS is the council’s primary science services provider.

The council also noted that the green turtle population in the Mariana Archipelago was moved up to an endangered status despite a Recovery Plan for the Pacific green turtle population being in place since 1998, which suggests that the previous Recovery Plan was not effective for the region. It recommended that NMFS and FWS conduct robust scientific research to evaluate threats to the population identified in the final rule, such as impacts of sea level rise, so that such information can be considered in future five-year status reviews of the population. The council further recommended continuation of the long-term nesting activity monitoring at French Frigate Shoals in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands as part of the evaluation to determine impacts of climate change on the population.

Besides sea turtles, Hocog asked the council for assistance with shark predation, which is hampering the efforts of CNMI fishermen. The council will ask NMFS to conduct biological and ecological research of shark species of concern to facilitate sound decision making regarding ESA listing and related actions. The council noted that focus on the oceanic white-tip shark is warranted due to known declines in population and bycatch in fisheries. The council will work with appropriate partners to prioritize shark and other species of concern in terms of fisheries management in the Western Pacific Region.

The council will continue its deliberations 8:30am to 5pm Thursday and Friday in the Micronesian Ballroom, Guam Hilton, Tumon Bay, Guam. Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo will provide welcoming remarks on Thursday at 10am. The public is invited to participate in the meeting as well as Fishers Forums to held from 6pm to 9pm at the Hilton Guam. The Fishers Forum will focus on mapping fishery resources.

For more information including complete agendas, go to www.wpcouncil.org or email info.wpcouncil@noaa.gov.

Recommendations by the council that are regulatory in nature are transmitted to the Secretary of Commerce for final approval. The council was established by Congress under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act in 1976 to manage domestic fisheries operating seaward of State waters around Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI, and the U.S. Pacific Island Remote Island Areas. ***(PR)***

Pacific Winds small ensemble performs at Town House

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The small ensemble of the Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band held a Yamaha Concert last Saturday at the Town House Department Store in Chalan Kanoa. The concert is part of Town House's one-day sale of band instruments and audio and video equipment.

Atsuko Eck (saxophone), Ted Parker (tuba), Joshua Sablan (clarinet and French horn), Yijia Zhao and Fumi Nimura (clarinet), Ayeon Lee and Rachel Kim (flute), and Mark Mirante (trumpet) were the band members that performed.

The band, which has 20 members, played several classical and contemporary music with one piece accompanied by a manual typewriter.

"It's not hard to use a typewriter as a musical instrument. It is monotonous like a snare drum, like a rhythm instrument. You just need the proper timing since the sound is 'tak, tak, tak,'" said Parker.

"I've been looking for a manual typewriter on Saipan but most of the offices have an electronic. Good thing my friend in Japan still has one so he brought it here," added Eck.

Pacific Winds, composed mostly of adults and Saipan Southern High School students, also used the event as part of their information campaign in looking for new members. Several students from Marianas High School and Saipan International School are also part of the community band.

Eck said they are looking for new members that already have background in playing musical instruments. "No beginners. We're not going to teach how to play a musical instrument here. We want those who have a background but hasn't played for a while."

The band had previously performed in the Tumon Bay Music Festival in 2011 in Guam, but now has been accompanying the SSHS Manta Ray Band in the annual competition.

"We just chaperon SSHS' band for a couple of years now. We help these kids focused in music. Only Saipan Southern and Saipan Community School have band programs on the island," said Parker.

He added that their band program usually starts in the fourth grade with introduction to music and the instruments used.

Acoustic, bass, and electric guitars, baby grand piano, clarinets, a clavinova, digital piano, drum and electric drum set, tambourines, trombones, trumpets, toca percussion, and ukuleles are some of the instruments sold at Town House.

JON PEREZ

Atsuko Eck, right, uses a manual typewriter in one of the performances by the Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band last Saturday at Town House Department Store. Also in photo are, from left, Yijia Zhao, Fumi Nimura, Ted Parker, and Joshua Sablan.

Dynasty sued for not paying $368K for chill water-cooling system

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An air-conditioning company is suing the owner of Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino for allegedly failing to pay $368,487.71 over the replacement of Tinian Dynasty complex's chill water-cooling system.

JWS Air Conditioning & Refrigeration asked the Superior Court to hold Hong Kong Entertainment Investment Ltd., owner of Tinian Dynasty, liable to pay $368,487.71 plus pre-judgment interest and post judgment interest.

JWS, through counsel Kimberlyn King-Hinds, requested the court to find probable cause for lien to attach to Tinian Dynasty's property, sufficient in amount to cover costs for unpaid equipment, mechanical and electrical design plans, corresponding contractual costs, as well as costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred in bringing this action.

According to King-Hinds, HKE contracted for the replacement of Tinian Dynasty's chill water system in accordance with the mechanical room and electrical layout design furnished by JWS and approved by HKE.

King-Hinds said pursuant to the contract, JWS furnished three 500-ton Rotary Screw VFD chillers, four corresponding chill water pump, four condenser water pumps, and the electrical and mechanical design layout plans for the installation of the chill water cooling system.

In exchange, HKE contracted JWS to pay $992,958 in installment payments.

HKE, however, allegedly failed to pay a portion of the installments.

King-Hinds said despite demand, HKE has failed and refused to pay amounts due and owing.

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$29.00/Adult | $15.00/Child

Sunday Brunch Buffet
11:00am to 2:00pm
Featuring Roast Prime Ribs, Roast Pig, Sashimi, Sushi bar with all you can drink of Sparkling wines and Beers.
$29.00/Adult | $15.00/Child

Daily Theme Lunch Buffet
11:00 to 2:00pm
$15.00/Adult | $8.00/Child

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WEDNESDAY
Korean with Bibimbap

THURSDAY
Chamolinian with BBQ

FRIDAY
Japanese with Shabu-Shabu

SATURDAY
International with Beef Rendang

Includes: Daily made appetizers, Crisp greens salad bar with condiments and choices of dressings, make your own sandwiches, Choices of freshly bake breads, Assorted Cheese platter and Nuts, Local fruits, Mouth watering desserts, Cakes, Ice cream and Bottomless Coca-Cola Soda fountain.

Please inquire also for group parties from 10 to 160 seats (Christening, Birthdays, Meetings or Seminars)

For reservation please call Aqua Resort Club @ 322-1234 ext. 731 or 732

APC
AQUA RESORT CLUB
Saipan

Court OK's $39K payment to Settlement Trustee

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood has approved the payment of $39,196.92 to the trustee for Settlement Fund for professional services and expenses incurred for a four-month period.

Tydingco-Gatewood said she reviewed the invoices and finds the request of Settlement Fund trustee's principal representative Joyce C. H. Tang for compensation and reimbursement of expenses to be reasonable.

The judge said she is satisfied with the work performed by Tang during this time frame.

Tydingco-Gatewood ordered the Settlement Fund to pay the Trustee $35,379.52, which represents 90 percent of the professional fees and 100 percent of all expenses incurred during the months of October 2015 through January 2016.

The Settlement Fund was further ordered to hold in trust to the credit of the Trustee the sum of $3,817.40, which represents 10 percent of the Trustee's professional fees for this time period.

Pursuant to a previous court order for the appointment of Trustee, Tang may petition for release of the 10 percent retainage on a quarterly basis, subject to the court's satisfaction of the Trustee's work and any objections to the Trustee's compensation request.

From October 2015 to January 2016, Tang requested compensation for work performed in the amount of $38,174 and $1,022.92 for expenses, or for a total of $39,196.92.

Last December, Tydingco-Gatewood ordered the Settlement Fund pay Tang $13,948.07 in compensation and reimbursement expenses incurred for August and September 2015.

WWII civilian casualties to be honored anew

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The In Memoriam committee, headed by the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, has started making plans for this year's event in a meeting held yesterday at the American Memorial Park conference room.

This will be the third straight year that the municipal council is organizing the event, which commemorates all civilians that were affected and became casualties of World War II.

Northern Islands Mayor Jerome Aldan, former representative Bill Torres, Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council members Lareina C. Camacho and Alice S. Igitol, Veterans Affairs Office executive director Lt. Col. (U.S. Army Reserve) Gregorio "Tam" M. Sablan Jr., Women's Affairs Office special assistant Doris Drew, and council staff Frances C. Muna and Donna Cabrera were present in the meeting.

The committee has designated each member specific tasks to complete to make sure the October service, held at the AMP, would go on without a hitch. They would also reach out to the Tinian and Rota mayors so they could include those who died in their islands on the list.

The committee would drum up their campaign through appearances in a radio talk show, television interviews, and newspaper advertisements and press releases.

The Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Battalion and the choir and symphony band of Ruthi Fruit's group have confirmed their participation but would wait for the start of the new school year since new students are coming in.

They would also involve the offices of the Women's Affairs, Indigenous Affairs, and Carolinian Affairs in educating women, and Chamorro and Carolinian families of the respective roles they played during the war.

They would also have an essay writing contest with "Marianas Memorial: Civilian Casualties of World War II" as the suggested theme.

JON PEREZ

The In Memoriam committee members enjoy a light moment after discussing plans for this year's commemoration of all civilian casualties of World War II. The meeting was held yesterday at the American Memorial Park conference room.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

MVA-RFP-16-2341: ACQUISITION OF TWO PICK-UP TRUCKS
MVA-RFP-16-2342: ACQUISITION OF PASSENGER VAN
MVA-RFP-16-2343: ACQUISITION OF SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE

Closing Date: **June 30, 2016** Time: **3:00 p.m.**

Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
MVA Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ MARTIN F. DUENAS
Acting Managing Director

VEHICLES FOR BID
'SOLD AS IS"

2015 Hyundai Tucson 4-Door SUV

Vehicle may be viewed at Bank of Guam® Garapan Branch, Wednesday through Friday from 9:00AM – 4:00PM. Last day for bidding is 6:00PM, Friday, June 10, 2016. For more information, please call **Credit Department** at 236-2700 extensions 3203, 3204 or 3205. The Bank reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

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NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)
BID SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 20, 2016 * TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2016-013

"Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Rota (30 units)"

Governor Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Governor Victor Hocog, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Rota.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Friday, May 27, 2016, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, or at the Rota Field Office during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Rota Field Office on **Thursday, June 09, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.** Bidders will have the opportunity to tour the housing subdivisions and inspect several housing units owned by NMHC that will be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder. Inquiries regarding this solicitation must be addressed in writing to the NMHC Corporate Director at P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 9:00 a.m., Monday, June 13, 2016.

NMHC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined to be in its best interest. All bids received shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

Century Hotel is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Housekeeping Cleaner (3)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent. Minimum of 6 months work experience in a hotel Is preferred. Able to speak and write English. Ability to speak basic foreign language is a plus. Good customer service skills are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights. Must be able to lift and carry heavy objects.

Bartender (1)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent with minimum two (2) years work experience in the preparation of mixed cocktails required. Strong communication and interpersonal skills are essential. Able to work flexible hours including evenings and/or weekends.

General Maintenance Worker (1)
Qualifications: Minimum of 2 years work experience as a handyman preferably in a hotel or in a similar large building or complex with a central plant. Willingness to work outside (if necessary) in inclement weather. Must be able to carry and lift heavy objects. Possession of a valid CNMI driver's license is required. Perform work involving skills of two or more maintenance craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment of the structure of an establishment in repair. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights. High School diploma or equivalent.

Guest Relations Agent (1)
Qualifications: High School diploma or equivalent, two (2) years experience in providing quality customer and personal service. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for service and evaluation of customer satisfaction. Must be able to handle customer complaints with efficiency. Multi-tasking skills, detail oriented and effective problem solving are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays and weekends and nights.

Guest Relations Supervisor (1)
Qualifications: High School diploma or equivalent training in vocational schools, related on-the-job experience or an associate's degree in hospitality or hotel management. One to four years supervisory / managerial capacity, in a five-star hotel, club, or resort. Preferably some basic knowledge of the hotel industry. Must be able to supervise and coordinate the activities of guest relations workers to make sure that guests on vacation or business travel have a pleasant experience, while also ensuring that establishment is run efficiently and profitably. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Application may be picked up and submitted to Fiesta Resort's security office located in the South Wing. A drug test must be passed as a condition of employment.
Closing date: June 10, 2016

Century Hotel is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

GCA alumna aims to become CFO someday

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Micah Cabrera will maximize her summer by studying for the Certified Public Accountant examination and do some traveling. After all, she deserves some time off after four years of working her way to earn the highest Latin honors when she graduated last spring.

The 22-year-old graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting at Vanguard University of Southern California. She will start working this fall.

"I plan to study for the CPA board exam as well as travel and enjoy my last real summer break before going into the labor force," Cabrera told *Saipan Tribune* in an email. "I really hope to pass all parts of the CPA exam before I start working full time."

She will be taking her first step in pursuing her dream of someday becoming a chief financial officer of a company when she begins work in September.

"I accepted an offer from a CPA firm in Orange County, California and will be starting as an audit associate in September. I hope to work in public accounting for a couple years, then transition into becoming a CFO of a company someday," Cabrera said.

Cabrera, the youngest of two daughters by Jun and Judith, said she has no idea that she would graduate with the highest Latin honors of her accounting class. "Usually students find out about it on graduation day."

"I was shocked. A staff member handed me a golden cord on graduation day and told me I was going to walk as Summa Cum Laude. All I could think of was how proud my parents will be. I kept thanking God in my head. I was just happy that my hard work paid off."

She has also been on the dean's list since her first year in college. Her older sister, Jo Hannah, graduated Magna Cum Laude at California State University-Long Beach last year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Micah Cabrera, middle, savors graduating Summa Cum Laude with her father and mother, Jun and Judith, in last month's commencement exercises at Vanguard University of Southern California.

Cabrera described her collegiate experience at VUSC as a roller coaster ride after having a larger load of schoolwork compared to other college students. "Because I aspired to become a CPA. It is a requirement in California to have a certain amount of college credits to obtain a CPA license."

The Grace Christian Academy alumna, who graduated high school in 2012, said she sacrificed school breaks by taking summer and winter school at Vanguard get into classes. "Other than that, I had great experiences working at different accounting firms throughout college."

Her internship in a big CPA firm in Orange County, where she worked as an audit intern, gave her the chance to meet new friends and interact with experienced people. "I was able to actually do audit work for the first time, interact with different clients involved in different industries, and just learn more about the public accounting profession."

She also considers receiving the Accounting Achievement Award during VUSC's award ceremony and being part of the international honor society, Sigma Beta Delta, as her other proudest achievement aside from graduating Summa Cum Laude.

The AA award is given to a graduating senior with the highest grade point average while she was elected by the VUSC's business department to become a member of Sigma Beta Delta. She was also a member of the Asian Pacific Islander Club and Enactus, VUSC's business club.

"Only a few graduating seniors from the business school at Vanguard get inducted into this society each year. Students have to be in the Top 20 percent of the business department, involved in the community, and personally vouched for by the department staff," said Cabrera.

She said that she volunteers in the tax program of the Internal Revenue Service by providing tax assistance and preparation services to low-income individuals and families who could not afford a CPA.

She said spending her entire pre-college education at GCA helped her become a driven person that's why she's thankful for the support given to her by pastor Ray Kinsella and the GCA staff.

"I went to GCA pretty much my whole life, from kindergarten, all the way up to senior year. GCA has definitely helped me become the driven person I am today," said Cabrera, who received honorable mentions in junior and senior high as well as character awards.

"I would not be where I am without the tremendous support I've received from pastor Ray Kinsella and the GCA staff over the years," she added.

Man sues SS commissioner for allegedly denying him disability insurance benefits

A man who claimed to be disabled has filed a lawsuit in federal court against Social Security Commissioner Carolyn W. Colvin for allegedly denying him disability insurance benefits.

Matthew John Seman Fejeran, through counsel Pamela Brown Blackburn, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to reverse Colvin's denial of his claim or remand the matter for further administrative proceedings.

Blackburn said Fejeran has exhausted administrative remedies in this matter and that the court has jurisdiction for judicial review.

Blackburn said Colvin denied Fejeran's claim for disability insurance benefits as it was her determination that plaintiff is not disabled under the Social Security Act.

The lawyer said it is Fejeran's contention that the denial of his disability claim is not supported by substantial evidence under the standards set forth by the statute and all other applicable laws and regulations.

Blackburn said the denial is also not supported by the weight of the evidence, plaintiff"s credibility, and medical opinions of his doctors. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Temporary water service interruption for Papago

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in Papago will experience a temporary water service interruption on Thursday, June 9, 2016 from 8am to 5pm.

The purpose of this water outage is to allow CUC's contractor, MPC Inc., to install a new bypass system at the Capitol Hill tank site and connect a new booster pump system to the existing distribution main.

The water outage will affect residents living along Gurugur Lane, Papago Drive, and portions of Isa Drive from Sosugi Drive to Mulberry Lane. This project is in preparation for the waterline upgrade in the area to improve system pressure and provide a more reliable water system.

This project is part of the Capitol Hill Pressure Improvement and Waterline Project and is funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

CUC apologizes in advance for any inconvenience resulting from this project and the water service interruption. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center at (670\ 664-4282 or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https ://www. facebook. com/ CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation). ***(PR)***

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
Caller Box 10007, Behind Department of Public Safety • Bureau of Motor Vehicle, Susupe, Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
as of May 31, 2016

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Calvary International Mission Ltd.	3/29/2016 SS/CH-2016-X-031	Construction of Sports Facility & Additional Classrooms	Lower Gualo Rai	Shoreline/Coastal Hazards	Withdrawn
2. IT&E	5/11/2016 S/T/RWSPIm-99-X-247	Microducts & Fiber Optic Installation & Replacement	Garapan, Navy Hill, Sadog Tasi, Capitol Hill, Papago, San Vicente.	Major Siting Amendment 2016-1	Approved, 5/13/2016
3. Alter City Group	5/09/2016 TMS-2015-X-028	Plumeria Resort Additional 2-story Villas	Tinian	Major Siting Amendment 2016-1	Under Review
4. Richard Shaul	4/26/2016 SLR-2016-X-040	Coral Reef Restoration	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved, 5/23/2016*
5. Jolie Liston, Ph. D, International Archaeological, LLC	5/06/2016 SS-2016-X-041	ATISA-Archaeological Survey	South of Sugar Dock	Shoreline	Approved, 5/06/2016*
6. Geraldine T. Cruz	5/05/2016 SWm-2016-X-042	Land Clearing	As Teo, Saipan	Wetlands & Mangrove	Approved, 5/18/2016*
7. CUC	5/13/2016 SWm-2016-X-043	Replace Water Tank (NMC)	As Terlaje, Saipan	Wetlands & Mangrove	Approved, 5/23/2016
8. Department of Public Works	5/17/2016 SSPIm-2016-X-044	Island-Wide Road & Traffic Repairs	Saipan	Shoreline APC & Ports Industrial APC	Approved, 5/31/2016
9. Lucia Norita-Shilling	5/18/2016 SW-2016-X-045	Commercial Piggery	As Denni, Saipan	Wetlands & Mangrove	Approved, 5/24/2016*
10. SUP Saipan, LLC	5/19/2016 SSLR-2016-X-046	Beach & Water Sports Tournament	Chalan Kanoa Beach	Shoreline APC & Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved, 5/24/2016*
11. Hyatt Regency Saipan	5/19/2016 SWm-2016-X-047	Relocation of Existing Well Pipes	Garapan, Saipan	Wetlands & Mangroves	Approved, 5/24/2016
12. Office of the Mayor of Saipan	5/17/2016	4th of July Liberation Day Festival	Garapan Fishing Base	Shoreline APC SSm-2016-X-048	Approved, 5/27/2016
13. Irindina P. Deang	5/20/2016 SW-2016-X-049	Land Clearing	Navy Hill, Saipan	Wetlands & Mangrove	Approved, 5/31/2016*
14. D.T.C Saipan	5/23/2016 SSm-2016-X-050	Filming & Photography	Saipan Beaches	Shoreline APC	Approved, 5/31/2016
15. Time Creation Corp. (TCC)	5/24/2016 SPI-2016-X-051	Drydock – MV Discovery	South Seaplane Ramp Lower Base, Saipan	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved, 5/31/2016*
16. Time Creation Corp. (TCC)	5/24/2016 SLR-2016-X-052	In-Water Maintenance	Outer Cove Marina, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved, 6/01/2016*
17. Rota Department of Public	5/24/2016 RMS-2016-X-053	Coral Quarry Pit (Mining & Operations)	Igua, Rota	Major Siting	Under Review*
18. Aqua Connections, Inc.	5/31/2016 (Re-submit) SLR-2016-X-015	Near Shore Sea Trek Operation	Sugar Dock	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review

§15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulation requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Gates Millennium Scholar returns to volunteer at CHC

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
tamanglona@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Marianas High School alumna Jill Ann Arada is spending her summer volunteering at the Commonwealth Health Center. Arada, 20, is one of three students from MHS who received the Gates Millennium Scholarship two years ago.

She currently studies at Indiana Institute of Technology and plans to graduate with a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering.

Arada is shadowing CHC's Antonio Mafnas, who repairs and maintains hemodialysis machines as the sole biomedical engineer in the department.

"Since I was coming back home to Saipan anyways and my summer vacation is three months long, I thought to myself that I should do something valuable with my time," she explained. "My mentor, Antonio Mafnas, has been working at CHC for 22 years and I will, no doubt, learn a great amount of critical solving techniques."

THOMAS MANGLONA II
Gates Millenium Scholar and Marianas High School alumna Jill Ann Arada, left, poses for a photo with her mentor Antonio Mafnas at the Commonwealth Health Center.

The rising college junior is expected to work on troubleshooting hemodialysis machines.

Arada noted that she is the first biomedical engineering major from the island. She hopes that those in the workforce know that students from the CNMI who pursue higher education in the mainland will bring back "knowledge, technology, and advancements to the island community."

When asked about her college experience, Arada explained how receiving the 10-year scholarship impacted her life: "GMS has impacted my studies and experience by showing me that the challenges that minorities face, especially being a female minority engineer, is no joke."

She added, "People tend to not take you seriously as an "engineer," but the things that I have learned to grow as an individual has helped me overcome many obstacles and prove to people that race, gender, and things like that take no control in your ability to achieve your dreams."

Arada urges her peers who leave the island to return to work in the community. "It is important that people who leave come back and work in the CNMI so our community can grow. Now that the young people are going off to college, they should not forget their roots and the community that they were raised in."

In doing so, she said, the next generation will prosper.

LibDay volunteers prepare for carnival opening

The CNMI Liberation Day Festival team gathered their volunteers in preparation for the opening of the carnival on Friday. The carnival will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base from June 10 to July 9, 2016.

Event organizers made a run-through of the activities that will be held during the festival. The volunteers we're asked to try out the games to ensure safety and authenticity. They were taught how some of the games will be offered during the carnival.

"The games are simple, the volunteers would assist carnival goers that are going to play," said volunteer committee head Levonne Pangelinan.

JON PEREZ
Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang and Skywalker Communications Group managing director Dr. Hu Bo, center, join their respective staff and some of the volunteers of the 2016 Liberation Day after yesterday's briefing of some of the activities of the festivities at the carnival grounds at the Garapan Fishing Base.

All volunteers—who are now more than 60—will be assisting in the concessions booth, entertainment, and the Liberation Day Royal Court.

Organizers also invited volunteers who are interested in photography to attend a 30-minute beginner course at 4pm today at the Marianas Business Plaza.

They also invited several who are into writing to join them in a creative writing workshop at 3pm on Thursday at the carnival grounds with Pangelinan and other members of her committee going through the games again at 4pm.

Pangelinan is requesting all volunteers to be at the carnival grounds at 5pm.

The Liberation Day committee is inviting everyone to join them in this year's festivities, which has a theme "Our Island, Our Heritage."

Take part in the colorful parade of floats on July 4 with the winning entry going home with $4,000. Food, drinks, games, entertainment, and a $10,000 raffle prize awaits everyone at the 2016 Liberation Festival. ***(Mackenzie Perez)***

Tax exemptions for computers removed

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed into law late last month a bill to remove the tax exemptions for personal and office computer products.

The bill also authorizes the secretary of the Department of Finance to classify new products for taxation purposes.

House Bill 19-115, now Public Law 19-46, calls this tax exemption an "unnecessary provision."

It says that the tax exemption for personal and office computer equipment was originally intended to keep prices of such items at an affordable rate for consumers.

"However, the daily use of computers have become part of our daily lives, but most importantly the abundance of such technology has allowed a significant reduction in costs compared to what it used to be," the bill states.

The bill, offered by Rep. George N. Camacho (R-Saipan), says such a tax exemption on these items has exceeded its need.

The exemption also further prevents the Commonwealth from collecting much needed revenue generated from these sales, the bill states.

The bill says the Legislature found that these amendments were needed to existing statue through consultation with the Division of Customs, under the Department of Finance. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 8, 2000

Abolition of DOF unconstitutional

Legislation seeking to abolish the Department of Finance is unconstitutional, according to the Attorney General's Office. Transferring the powers and duties of the department to a statutory created Department of Administration as proposed under SB 12-53 must only be carried out through an amendment of the CNMI Constitution. Commenting on the Senate proposal, Assistant Attorney General Elliot A. Sattler said the abolition of DOF, which was created by the Constitution, must be ratified by the public through a legislative or popular initiative.

Senate may widen scope of telecom bill

A bill passed by the House of Representatives seeking creation of a regulatory body for telecommunication firms on the islands will go through closer review in the upper house before it is sent to the floor for voting. Senate Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez, chair of the Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee, said he would seek comments again from private companies and the public as part of its deliberation on the legislation. He disclosed that the committee may incorporate a pending Senate bill on a proposed commission regulating entire utilities services in the Commonwealth. HB 12-6, otherwise known as the Commonwealth Telecommunications Act, seeks to establish a five-man commission that will regulate the sector in the CNMI in an effort to lure other potential investors here.

June 8, 2004

Babauta to follow up on Guard unit in Hawaii

From a weeklong trip to Washington D.C., Gov. Juan N. Babauta will stop by Hawaii for two days to meet with local and federal officials to discuss certain issues, including the proposed creation of a National Guard in the CNMI. While in Hawaii, the governor said he would also meet with some staff of the office of Gov. Linda Lingle. Babauta is set to be back on island on Thursday.

In efforts to get the support of the U.S. Congress for the creation of the CNMI's own National Guard, Babauta formed last month a task force that would determine the viability of the proposal.

PSS holds reading academy for teachers

Some 150 Public School System teachers for 4th to 6th grade are currently undergoing a four-day reading academy in efforts to improve the reading level of their students. PSS language arts and assessment program coordinator Stephen Smith said yesterday the workshop aims to train teachers on scientifically proven methods and strategies in teaching reading to all types of students. In particular, the training aims to equip the teachers on how to handle non-English speaking students, struggling readers, and gifted students.

June 8, 2005

White house seeks local GOP's aid

The White House Office of Political Affairs has sought the assistance of the Northern Mariana Islands GOP in helping push President Bush's platform to strengthen Social Security and the economy, passing an energy bill, and a strong dedication to winning the war on terror. In a letter to local GOP chair Juan S. Reyes, Sarah M. Taylor, deputy assistant to President Bush and director of Political Affairs in the White House, also emphasized the re-election victory of Bush and the Republican majority in the U.S. Congress and across the state government. The White House also named Annie Mayol in the White House Office of Political Affairs as the contact person for the Northern Mariana Islands.

House wants power privatization program

Hinting of secret negotiations that could take place on power privatization, House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial asked CUC if the awarding of a contract to an independent power producer would result in any potential financial liability or debt for the government. At the same time, Fitial expressed interest in the Legislature being involved in the ongoing efforts to privatize power.

He reiterated that the CUC, under the Constitution, cannot incur any public debt without the Legislature's approval. CUC consultant Harris Group earlier estimated that the privatization of power would cost some $364 million over 20 years. Fitial also asked for the most recent financial audits of the two leading IPPs: Telesource and Rolls Royce, represented locally by Pacific Marine and Industrial Corp. Earlier, the House speaker wrote Bank of Guam, warning of potential constitutional liabilities if it allows the government to tap into a $10 million letter of credit without legislative approval. He said the Constitution also prohibits the creation of public debt for government operating expenses.

Bridge Investment aids TJSHS chapters of honor society

SAN JOSE, Tinian—Bridge Investment Group financially assisted with the annual renewal membership fee for Tinian Jr./Sr. High School chapters of the National Honor Society and the National Junior Honor Society.

Last June 3, the company issued a monetary donation of $770 to the organization. The society encompasses a diverse group of students who play a huge role in the community demonstrating exceptional leadership skills.

This organization was founded to recognize outstanding students all over the U.S. and U.S. territories who exemplify the four pillars of NHS/NJHS—scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Bridge Investment Group employees pose for a picture with honorary members of the NHS and NJHS after receiving a certificate of appreciation.

In addition, to the high academic standards, members are highly encouraged to be proactive in school and community activities. With continued organization membership, Tinian Junior Senior High School's NHS and NJHS will be nationally recognized as official members of this prestigious global society and the graduating seniors will gain access to scholarships that will help fund their college education.

"With renewal comes the opportunity for upcoming seniors, who are members of the society to apply for the National Honor Society scholarship. Every year there are 3,000 national semifinalists who receive $1,500, 25 national finalists who receive $3,000, and a national winner who will receive $15,500. Credit is being awarded to Bridge Investment Group for donating last year's renewal fee for both school chapters," said NHS president Gerald Crisostomo

Bridge Investment Group will continue to champion such wonderful educational endeavors, which will benefit our children. These dedicated and hardworking students need to know that their efforts are appreciated and Bridge Investment Group is a firm believer that an investment in our future leaders is an investment in our community. ***(PR)***

Chamber to hold sales training seminar

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Island Training Solutions are proud to host an encore presentation of the powerful Jeffrey Gitomer Sales Training business seminar, "Little Red Book of Selling," facilitated by Saipan's very own Gitomer Certified Speaker, Jim Arenovski.

Gitomer's "Little Red Book of Selling" Seminar is the first-ever international sales training of this caliber to enter Micronesia.

Are you prepared to change your business for the better? Tired of just making the sale for now and want to make sales forever? The "Little Red Book of Selling" training seminar will change your life. Every business owner wants to see their sales staff succeed by improving relationships with customers, but not all of us know the finer points of how to motivate our staff for maximum improvement and results.

In "The Little Red Book of Selling" seminar, Arenovski will skillfully instruct you and your staff in the powerful techniques of selling that will launch your business into improved sales and customer relations with amazing results! You will be given the tools that you need to attract, engage, and stay in touch with customers, make the sales, and more!

In Jeffrey Gitomer's own words, "The Little Red Book of Selling course is for all sales people. Whether they have been in sales six months or 25 years, it is critical to constantly return to the basics and strengthen their foundation."

Come join Micronesia's top business leaders for this high-end, high-energy full day seminar on Thursday, June 16, 2016 at the Kanoa Resort from 8am to 4pm.

All participants will receive breakfast and lunch as well as valuable and exclusive Gitomer training materials. The cost is $349 per person for Chamber members and $449 per person for non-Chamber members. Advance reservations are necessary and space is limited, so reserve your spot today by calling the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at (670) 234-7150 or email administator@saipanchamber.com. Don't miss this amazing opportunity again! ***(PR)***

PH senator to visit CNMI for PH Independence Day event

Angara

Philippine Senator Sonny Angara is expected to arrive on Saipan tomorrow to keynote the 118th Commemoration of the Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence on June 12 at the Kanoa Resort.

"The Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands is home to about 18,000 Filipinos. I am eagerly looking forward to touching base with the Filipino community and various organizations there," he said in a statement.

Angara, vice chairman of the Philippine Senate Foreign Relations Committee, will meet with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and the members of the Legislature to discuss a wide range of bilateral issues.

The visiting senator, who earned his master's degree from Harvard Law School, is a strong advocate for tax reform and education in the Philippine legislature.

He is also known for his interest in the issues of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), having championed the passage of the new Overseas Workers Welfare Administration charter, and more recently the CMTA law, which effectively increased the tax-exempt value of items sent by overseas Filipinos to their families back home.

Considered as one of the upcoming leaders in Philippine politics, Angara will be on the island for four days. ***(PR)***

DEREK GERSONDE

BUSHFIRE
This bushfire destroyed about 3 acres of vegetation in As Gonno across Guangdong Hardware Thursday afternoon. The fire started at a Bureau of Environmental and Coastal project in the jungle area. Investigators said the fire broke out when the Department of Public Works crew were clearing to make access road and a truck was pulling out a hydromower.

UOG welcomes accounting professors through newly established program

The University of Guam School of Business and Public Administration (SBPA) welcomes associate professors of accounting Dr. William Morehead and Dr. Mark Morgan from Mississippi College as part of the new Senator Herminia Dierking and John Phillips Visiting Accounting Professor and Lecturer Program.

The program, a collaborative, strategic partnership between SBPA, the Guam Board of Accountancy (GBOA), and the UOG Endowment Foundation, focuses on strengthening the university's accounting program through endowed chairs, which are specialized faculty positions funded by a donor.

The program will fund visiting accounting faculty with specific expertise not currently available in Guam.

"This new program adds value to our existing accounting degree program," said SBPA Dean Dr. Annette Taijeron Santos. "The benefit is that these visiting professors will provide fresh perspectives and widen our scope of accounting through specialized courses such as fraud examination."

Visiting professors

Morehead and Morgan, both associate professors of accountancy at Mississippi College, will be teaching at UOG Summer Session A.

The former National President of the Association of Government Accountants from 2009 to 2010, Morehead, whose accolades include 2012 recipient of the National Robert W. King Memorial Award—the highest award presented by the Association of Government Accountants—will teach the foundation course titled principles of managerial accounting.

Morgan—whose professional background includes serving as the Senior Criminal Investigator for the Mississippi Department of Revenue for seven years—has held more than a handful of academic positions and professional memberships such as the longest serving member on the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners' Higher Education Initiative Committee in Austin, Texas. He will teach a unique special studies in accounting course titled Fraud Examination.

"Both professors were recommended by GBOA and our accounting faculty," Santos said. "They are solid candidates for the first cycle of the program, and it will be interesting to see how their teaching styles impact our curriculum."

Multi-year support

In 2014, the GBOA contributed $1M to the UOG Endowment Foundation to establish the endowed chair program and has pledged continuous financial support for the program until the year 2020. In April 2016, GBOA made an additional contribution of $100K, with planned contributions of up to $200K in 2017 and 2018.

"This is really the first program of its kind here at UOG, and it's a great first step in aligning external support for UOG degree programs," UOG Endowment Foundation director Janiece Sablan. "Our mission is to provide impact to the University through community engagement, and in terms of greater educational enrichment for future accountants, this program was a logical fit for where to invest GBOA's generous donation."

Serving the community

Michele Santos, assistant executive director and licensing administrator at GBOA, said the Program's purpose is to serve not only an industry but community need. By adding value to the existing accounting program, GBOA hopes to prepare the next generation of accounting professionals that will serve Guam.

"The goal is to graduate accounting majors that hopefully become Certified Public Accountants (CPAs)," Michele Santos said. "There is a need, and we want to help our students by using this money to strengthen the accounting profession on Guam. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Muhammad Ali's biggest wins? Outside the boxing ring

Muhammad Ali was already almost a ghostly presence in American life. He struggled to speak and to move comfortably because of the Parkinson's disease that began afflicting him not long after his boxing career ended in 1981. As he trembled lighting the Olympic flame to open the Summer Games in Atlanta in 1996, those who had seen Ali grow from a charismatic sports superstar to a beloved cultural and civil rights icon struggled, too. That was both affirming and agonizing to see.

His death Friday night at a Phoenix hospital triggered an immense outpouring of sadness, appreciation and awe at everything he had achieved. Of all famous American athletes — perhaps of all Americans — only Jackie Robinson was a peer. Imagine if a pro athlete in the media-saturated world of 2016 was a simultaneous symbol of principle, defiance, excellence and charm. He would be like "Michael Jordan multiplied by Lady Gaga," in the words of Keith Olbermann.

Ali was born Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr. in Louisville in 1942 at a time of segregation and Jim Crow. His boxing skills lifted him to a gold medal at the 1960 Olympics in Rome, and in 1964, he claimed the world heavyweight championship by defeating Sonny Liston in Miami Beach — living up to his prediction that he would "shock the world." Malcolm X, one of his Muslim mentors, was ringside for the victory.

America had never seen an athlete — or anyone — like Clay. Brash and handsome, "as elegant as Duke Ellington," in the words of biographer David Remnick, he — and we — delighted in his wordplay. Yet when Clay announced he had taken the Muslim name Muhammad Ali as a disciple of the Nation of Islam, the mainstream media refused to use it for years. And when he refused to serve in the military in 1967, citing his Muslim beliefs and his opposition to the Vietnam War, he became reviled in much of mainstream America.

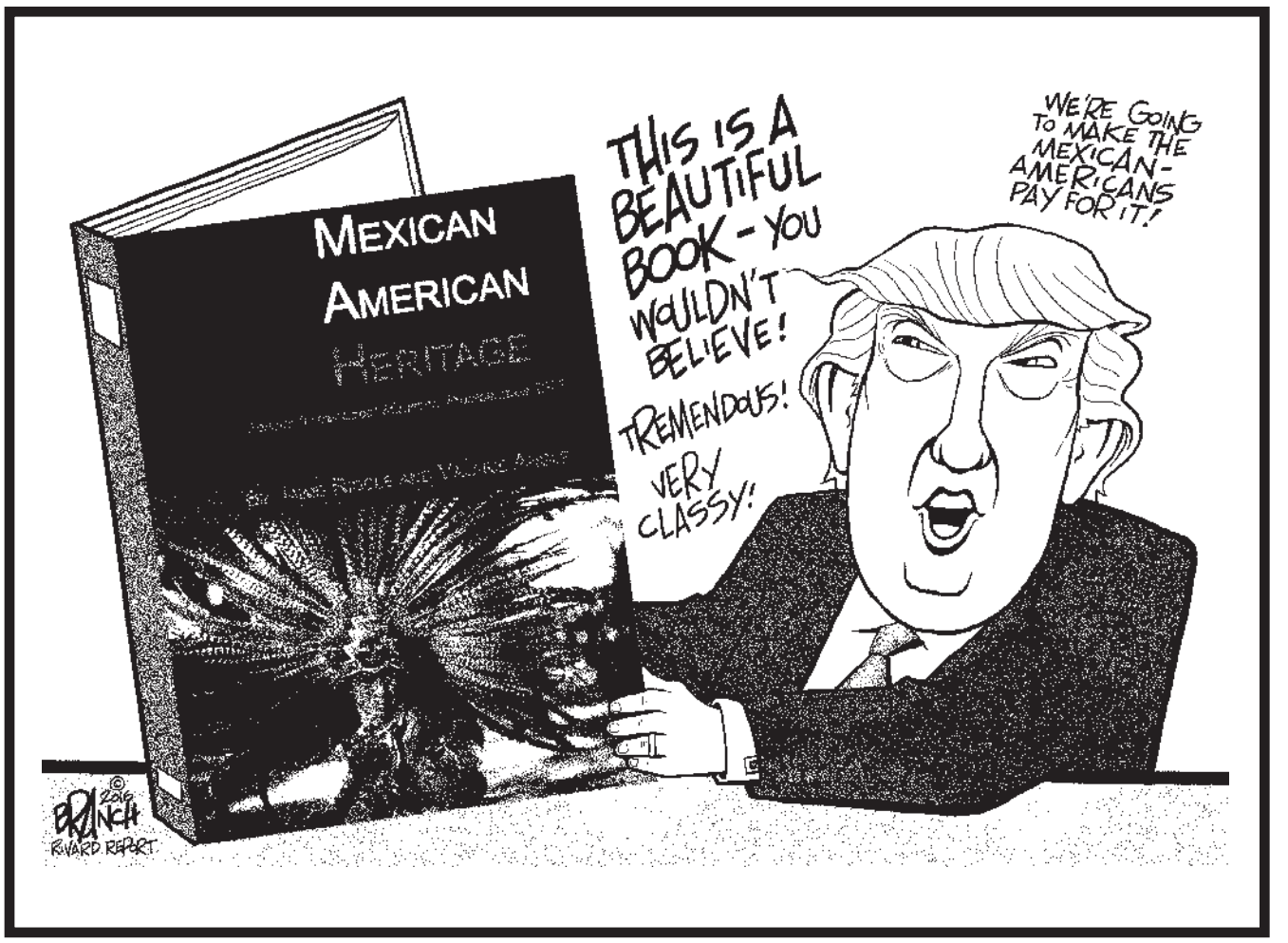
"My conscience won't let me go and shoot them. They never called me n-----, they never lynched me," he said in a TV interview. "How can I shoot those poor people? Just take me to jail."

He never went. To Vietnam or jail. Instead, sentenced to five years in prison for his refusal to enlist and kept from boxing for more than three years of his prime, Ali went on to become one of the most enduring symbols of the civil rights and anti-war movements of the 1960s, a decade whose unrest defines America to this day.

In the 1970s, Ali began his evolution from American pariah to American hero. The Supreme Court upheld his appeal in 1971, holding that his conscientious objector status was a valid reflection of his religious beliefs. The unanimous decision validated what he said in 1967: "I am confident that justice will come my way, for the truth must eventually prevail." And so his truth became the country's.

The public turned on the Vietnam War, and, eventually, so did sportswriters who for many years after his religious conversion continued to call him Cassius Clay. In the ring, he became a legend, over and over, by shrewdly allowing George Foreman to tire himself out in the heat of an outdoor stadium in Kinshasa, Zaire, to regain the heavyweight title in 1974 — and by defending the title in the "Thrilla in Manila," an epic, bruising brawl with Joe Frazier in the Philippines in 1975.

See ALI on Next Page



A full bloom summer

I took photos of the flame trees at my school the other day. The flowers were in full bloom though the flame tree festival on island occurred a few days back. The reddish flowers were resplendent in their glory.

My summer 2016 is, at best, uncertain on the details. To begin with, I had applied to stay at one of our new low-income housing when I was told that the certification from PSS was that my employment was only up to June 6. I thought I had a full year contract as a substitute teacher but I guess, since I was not among those on a 12-month employment contract, mine specifically says that I am on call on a daily basis though the payroll record shows that I was "called" daily since the first week of April.

No matter. It is just that the housing project had paperwork to do, and technically, I am without a projected income after June 6 on the basis of PSS central office's record. Bummer. The housing project lady working to have me come in (I was #54 when I applied a year ago) is clear of my ability to pay, given all the history and records, but she has rules to follow, and I am without guaranteed income. Bummer.

No problem. I wish I was on the ranks of PSS retiree double dipping but I am not. I am retired on record, all right, since I took out my contributions to the retirement fund in 2007 after teaching at San Vicente to deal with a case of spondylosis, a condition of which I knew nothing about then. All I knew was that I had painful neck bone flares on occasion, and Saipan, Honolulu, and Pea Eye that took x-rays all recommended surgery, deemed a simple procedure, but I was personally wary that the scalpel would wander over my spinal cord that bode no possibility of error, a prospect I was not looking forward to.

Then I chanced on being in Jiangsu in China outside of Shanghai, went to a Chinese community clinic while nursing a cold, and the MD looked examined my spondylosis. I left the place with a two-week supply of anti-pain herbal medicine and instructions on how to massage my neck when the spondylosis flares up again. I skipped surgery, and the spondylosis turned out to be a knead and a herb here and there!

Now I do not even need to deal with the spondylosis since I rotate my neck regularly and never have neck pains, but rarely. But the facticity of age intruded again, not formally at PSS, though I am sure it is a consideration whether this old coot labeled an "educator" elsewhere is capable on toeing the line so that I am in sync with other teachers to promote the curriculum that addresses directly provisions of the Standard Core components that PSS follows.

I ran into the age thing in China. Knocking just a couple of years into the 7th decade, Beijing decided to go by the books, and on the books, it is written that local pedagogues were not to be older than 60 for the male (I think it is 50 or 55 for the females); foreign teachers were not to be older that 65.

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.

My university failed to get a working visa for *moi* because of age, though I had already taught three years beyond the age of retirement, and had the stamina and desire to stay the course another seven years.

Now we have perfectly able and young Chinese teachers playing dominoes and checkers at the park receiving their retirement income but bored to death, their status taken away. The under 60s are only too happy with the new senior positions!

I returned to PSS CNMI, which follows non-discrimination of age by law. I have been guiding the journey of first graders since April who up until now had never bothered to map the journey of 16-years toward college and beyond. But because I have publicly indicated that endurance wanes past noon, my principal is determined to locate me to higher learning levels and not deal with the peculiarities of the lowest elementary grade in the system.

I do not have any reluctance in remaining on the first grade level now that endurance is not an issue, the prospect of dealing with 7-year-olds next year is very much welcomed. However, the judgment call on personnel staffing is in the hands of my supervisors.

Meanwhile, summer blooms and though I shall be pinching my pennies, the prospect of lounging on the comfortable summer breeze of the island (it is actually summer all year round, with temperature ranging from lower 70s to upper 80s all year round) is an inviting enough lull to the hustle and bustle elsewhere.

Whether I bloom or the season does, is immaterial. We live in a comfortable place in the world, desired by some, a tour destination for many, and we are often do not appreciative the treasure we have over the rest of the world that spend most of their lives on highways, or trains and subways. We are no more than an hour on this 12-by-5-mile size of an island to any destination, enticingly so because it is summer all year round.

I did not visit the Smithsonian while living in Washington, D.C. though I drove many guests there. I will not make a similar mistake to the summer of my isle!

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Mandatun publiku

By JOHN DELROSARIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Presisu na ta komprende na guaha dos señores gi hegsu` I Deni` man-dispopone sin consientimentun `sino mandatun publiku.

Kumeke ileghu, kau i chatgobietnu yan sigundoña manma-elihe ni publiku? Lau mahasñgon ma-upus i primera intension lai konstitusion gi este na asuntu. Che`chu` kabron yan gulosu!

Ti mapot: Ginen botasion yan disision publiku `nai siña masañgan na guaha mandatu manma-entrega siha ni publiku. Gai tinatte este na mandatu: tinagu` publiku gi hafa siha na areglu debi u fan machogue para adelantun todu.

Ebañgheliun na`gao

Gi dumeskansag-hu` un` taloane hu guife manaitai ebañgheliu ginen un`tat Na`gao. Hu repasa para bai komprende haf` tinaitai-hu. Gi mismu tiempu guaha siha palabra mañgahulu` ni umesplika gi un` sigidu haf` man-masusesede gi hegsu` I Deni`. Gai mutmorasion lau maila` ta atan parehu:

Mandatu: Inaprueban i tautau gi eksisiun botasion. "Guaha dos señores man-dispopone sin mandatu ginen i publiku. Lache este na modun disposision. Faisen ya umachule` appruebasion mayotmente ginen botadot".

Kara`: Menos na salape` gi kahan iya Marianas. "Yangin ti sattun na inadahe guaha gi dididi` na fondu gi kaha pues mas u kara` (broke) iya Marianas yan sapet para i tautau".

Bulachu: Chatfitme na karera gi halom chubasku. "Sin mandatu ginen i tautau pues taimanu tuñgu` miyu haf` dinesehan mayotmente fuera de `in hasñgune gi hilu` mañan kabron?"

Dulalag: Palabran kulan mohon independente Marianas. "Kulan ta dudulalag i federat kontodu planun fasilidat militat. Haye para u prebeniye familia siha yangin ha hala tatte mas ayudu? Atan fuetsaña gi bandan hutnalerus. Trabiha tutuhon ha` este `nai adumididi` hana` fan galileg hit gi halom plaset didog na pinepble".

Naufragu: Pasaheron mafondu na batku ni ume`esuette gi kanton kantit maseha haye na batku malofan. Estague` klaru ta padedese pa`gu `nai mampos modun naufragu kinalamten-ta!

Diskuidu: Inapalo`pu` diskuidu sin presisu. "Sige ta hala talañgata kada man-matompu` hit gi hilu` diskuidun ginen halom". Yangin unu yan unu, dos; taimanu na para u tres? Dispensayu`, sumasaunau kuestion gulosu: Ya haf` para guahu? De dios mihu!

Kuentas Patgon

Desde primet gradu man-mafana`gue hit ti mapot na kuentas: Guiya este `an tasuma unu yan unu, dos! Mañgontentu hit esta kase dos años malofan `nai guaha umestablese nuebu na klasen kuentas: unu yan unu, tres.

I dos sabiu ginen Tinian (Senadores Francisco Borja yan Jude Hofschneider) yan i minatres as Biktot Hokog ginen Luta mabota casinon Saipan. Gi mismu sakudida mapunu` industrian casino gi tanu` niha, Tinian yan Luta.

Iya Luta ni ti mapulakes i casino pininu` ni sabiu as Biktot Hokog. Iya Tinian ti marepara na gaige Saipan un` dañkulu na industrian casino ni siempre unina` litiku casinon niha. Guiya este i nuebu na chenot man-sabiu ni mafanana`an "dyscalculia". Era, chenot probleman mañgomprende masuman ti mapot na numeru.

Dispues, sige si Borja yan Hofschneider mañgarera kadu` interest publiku lau pot chatfitme na offisiun niha politika. Debi esta i dos de u paire pot sisteman batkon aire. Guaha esta in` konduse halom finatton ruplanu direktamente (direct flights) ginen hiyuñg para u inayuda industrian casino?

Trabiha ti listuyu` umaksepta kuentas i tres na man-sabiu. Kuentas dañu gi industrian dos tanu` ni marepresesenta. U anog klaru un` dia resuttan destrosiu `nai esta sumen atrasau! Unu yan unu, dos. Ahe ti sumaunau kuestion: Hafa para guahu?

Ti satbayun

I kara` (broke) i CUC ni haf` na fondu para operasioña, cho`chu` ni debi u fan mapetsige, yan apas dibi. Este na ahensia rumesponsasable setbisiun hanom, kandet yan paip aplacha`. Ni u fan apase i gubietnu poko mas o`menos $44 miyon na dibi tinahoñg para u kalamten kabales.

Finagcha`e este probleman hutnaleros ginen hiyuñg ni pininu` ni lai US Immigration. Ha luñu` siempre lamegai na bisnis mandikiki` yan nesessidat hutnaleros para i nuebu siha na planun mahatsan hotel guine. Hotel tautau tanu` i para u fan mahatsa? Na ti magahet na mas siempre megai cho`chu` para tautau hiyuñg?

Namanman i para u fan mahñgañg offisiat iya Marianas lau esta siete años desde ke gaige este na lai gi lepblu. Kase mas namanman i man-hineñgañg ni man-pausan niha plumanuye haf` nesessidat tanu` guine na puntu. Lastima man-i`ina i kandet i gima` lau taya` tautau!

Didog na fatsu ginen i hegsu` I Deni`. Los uttimu ha sapet i publiku sin presisu pot binalutan ni hagun lamog diskuidu. Debi tana` fan sattun hit kumetuñgu` haf mas fuera de oppan na diskuidu ni u tinatiye `nai ha sapet mas i publiku.

Napun diskuidu

Ha gacha` hit man-mamatmus gi halom rimulinon napun diskuidu ni matutuhon desde taftaf gi ochenta siha na sakan. Sige gobietnu siha man-kahat pot no u ma-apase dibin obligasion iya Marianas gi programan man-ritirau. Gaige este na dibi pa`gu gi $779 miyon pesus. Estague` na diskuidu muna` fañufa` mattiñgan i programa.

Man-apalo`pu` probleman kara` (broke) CUC, ma-utut numeron empleau ginen hiyuñg ni US Immigration, inaminasan bisnis guine ginen este na diskuidu kontodu maribahan rinikohen aduana (tax) `an machum man-dikiki` siha na bisnis. Ha funas pinasensia gi hagas hu guatdia na esperansa na maseha dididi` na adelantu maulegña ke taya`.

Esta hu konsidedera haf` taimanu na man-gaige hit guine na estau `nai mas didog para ta padese desde otru sakan. Kau matdision, kastigu pat inapalo`pu` diskuidu? Makat na kontrariu para i tautau siha gi señgsoñg!

Anog na mantai sensia sattun na kinimite para uma`ayuda i publiku fuera de manadan "biba" yan finababa. Yangin gai planu hau malagu na biahe, maila` ta ina kabales kau guaha checho`mu ni faktu ha adelanta linala` i publiku. `An taya`, pues ni hame ni botadot mantai ganas ham manmanbota nu hagu!

Gaige lokue` dibin land compensation, poku` mas o`menos, sisienta miyon pesus. Siña mohon ma-apase este na dibi sin ditension? La potput na obligasion fumafana` iya Marianas. Dios mihu!

What we can learn from D-Day's leaders

By JOHN-CLARK LEVIN
The Baltimore Sun

John-Clark Levin can be reached at johnclark.levin@gmail.com.

This year, the youngest draftees who invaded Normandy on June 6, 1944 are 90 years old. By now, our cultural understanding of D-Day focuses on the valor of those young men who fought and died on the beaches. The enduring image of the day is Robert F. Sargent's photo "Into the Jaws of Death," which shows American soldiers wading out of a landing craft toward forbidding, smoke-shrouded cliffs — not fearlessly, but in spite of their terror. Yet while the courage and fortitude of the everyday soldiers is profoundly inspiring, D-Day also offers essential lessons on leadership.

On half a dozen other battlefields, the men were just as brave, but their lives were wasted by indecisive or inept commanders. D-Day could very well have been another disaster; the invasion would not have been successful without the extraordinary statesmanship and generalship of its leaders.

These lessons of leadership are keenly relevant today. The first skill is prudence; great leaders must understand the limits of what they can achieve, and have the discipline and humility to avoid rash action.

After Pearl Harbor drew the United States into World War II, much of the public in America and Britain was eager take the fight to the enemy and liberate Europe. In the east, Joseph Stalin was urgently demanding that the Anglo-American armies open a second front in France during the autumn of 1942. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill knew that had they bowed to Soviet pressure in 1942, the cross-Channel invasion would have almost surely been crushed on the beaches. Even by 1943, the Allies were only beginning to hit their stride as a competent fighting force. And so, the two Western leaders played a delicate political game, stringing the Soviets along with just enough activity — invasions of North Africa, Sicily and Italy — to keep the alliance from collapsing, while resisting the temptation to launch the Great Crusade in France too hastily. By doing so, they ensured that when the invasion went forward in the spring of 1944, the men on the beaches would have the experience, resources and support to complement their bravery.

Yet even as prudent leaders recognize their own limitations, they do not let that knowledge paralyze their organizations. Great leaders accept calculated risks and encourage subordinates to do the same. This delegation fosters trust and gives individuals the freedom to bring their ingenuity to bear on difficult problems.

The D-Day invasion was the most complex military operation ever conceived, and the largest amphibious landing in history. Every uniformed service participated in some way, each with its own culture and its own professional jealousies. There were a frightening number of ways that it could all go wrong — from communications failures to bad weather. Because a timely German counterattack could doom the whole operation, the true place and time of the landings would have to be concealed until the last possible moment.

No single general could control all those risks. The U.S. Army chief of staff, Gen. George Marshall, knew that despite his formidable organizational talents, he could not micromanage the operation to victory. Instead, he focused on ensuring that every key role was filled by the right man for the job. By D-Day, Marshall had fostered a climate that rewarded generals for initiative and discouraged the dithering that had cost so many lives earlier in the war. Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, who commanded the invasion, later reflected: "His ability to delegate authority not only expedited work but impelled every subordinate to perform beyond his suspected capacity."

Finally, great leaders hold themselves accountable. On the blustery night before D-Day, with the outcome deeply uncertain, Eisenhower wrote a statement to be read in case the invasion failed. "My decision to attack at this time and place was based upon the best information available," he wrote. "The troops, the air and the Navy did all that bravery and devotion to duty could do. If any blame or fault attaches to the attempt it is mine alone."

In a time when leaders always seem to be the last to learn about wrongdoing in their organizations, and every failure blamed on underlings, Eisenhower's leadership should inspire us to demand better.

ALI

From Page 10

Ali was human. His verbal cruelty toward archrival Frazier remains unfathomable, and his attitudes about women and his four marriages will be weighed against the millions of dollars he donated to build mosques and other Muslim causes and the faith he inspired in humanity.

But even as Parkinson's dulled his outsized personality, he never lost his essential kindness toward others. That remained on display in daily dealings with the public and his many humanitarian and philanthropic efforts. His willingness to remain a public figure even as a diminished, ghostly version of himself showcased a courage that rivaled the one he showed the world as a 25-year-old defying the United States government. To the end, what President Obama called his "wonderful, infectious, even innocent spirit" shone through.

"Too many people go to their grave with their music still inside them. Muhammad Ali lived the gift of life to the fullest. He inspired tens of millions of people. He brought light where there was darkness," one of his biographers, Thomas Hauser, wrote. He was, in the words of his daughter, a "humble mountain."

Goodbye, Muhammad Ali. You moved mountains. You moved us.

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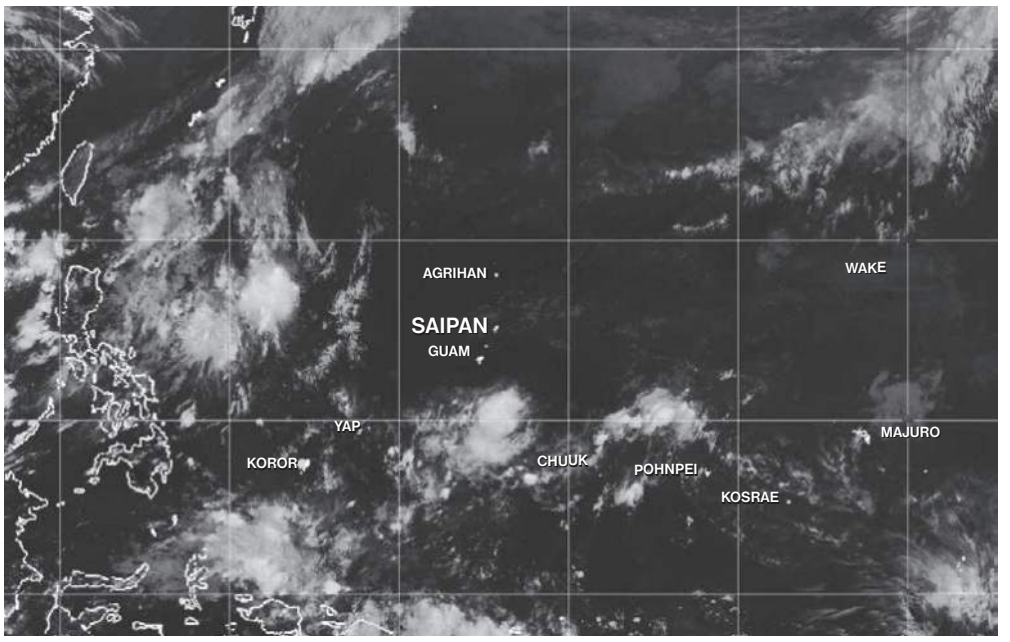
The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:56 PM, TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper level trough extends south from an upper level low centered near 20N135E to 11N139E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found well northwest of Yap west of a line from 23N133E to 20N135E to 16N133E. A surface trough extends southeastward from 8N130E to EQ142E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring south of Koror south of a line from 5N130E to 5N138E. An upper-level low is centered northwest of Chuuk near 11N150E at the surface. Trade-wind troughs extend from 3N140E to 9N142E and 7N146E to 11N155E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present across eastern Yap state, Chuuk state and near Pohnpei between 5N and 12N from 140E to 158E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms across Kosrae state to near Majuro between 4N and 8N from 158E to 172E. A nearly-stationary front extends westward through 25N160E to 23N148E and back through 25N at 139E. Patchy showers and a few thunderstorms are seen near and north of the front to 25N.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲92	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Windy	▲64	▼59
Beijing	Sunny	▲90	▼65
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲87	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼72
London	Showers	▲77	▼53
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87	▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲57	▼51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲88	▼78
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼62
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲84	▼71
Paris	Thunderstorms	▲74	▼55
Pusan	Cloudy	▲79	▼64
Rome	Thundershowers	▲80	▼63
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲91	▼58
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼51
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼62
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼68
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼61

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:13 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
9:57 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
5:20 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.4 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:38 AM	9:42 PM
Thursday	9:34 AM	10:31 PM
Friday	10:28 AM	11:16 PM
Saturday	11:19 AM	11:57 PM
Sunday	12:08 PM	

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Hocog asks fishery management council to collaborate on 3 key issues

Acting governor Victor Hocog last Monday asked the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council to work with the Commonwealth to address regulations that impact the people of the CNMI.

On behalf of Gov. Ralph Torres, who is off-island, Hocog made his remarks during the opening of the 166th meeting of the council Monday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan, CNMI.

"Before we became a Commonwealth and decided to become a family of the great nation of America, our forefathers used our natural resources on sea and land," Hocog said. "As we became part of the American family, things changed." He noted that CNMI has been conserving its resources even before it became a part of the United States. He said the forefathers were mindful of future generations.

"I humbly ask this council to consider the state our people are faced with," he added. "I choose to ask the council in the days ahead on this meeting to give serious thoughts and consideration [on how we can] work together and achieve what islanders need without compromising standards."

Hocog listed three items of concern: 1) the 0 to 3 miles of submerged lands and waters around islands of the Islands Unit of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument (MNM) that have not been conveyed to the CNMI; 2) sea turtles and sharks; and 3) U.S. military bombing of Farallon de Medinilla (FDM).

"They took away our three miles from our very own native people," Hocog said. "And that is very sad. In our heart it is very sad." He noted that in those areas there is an abundance of fish. "Our own native people are prohibited from fishing there."

Regarding sea turtles, Hocog said, while he is not fond of eating turtle, "It is sad to hear we have so many turtles around, yet our people cannot even harvest one for ceremonial use." He said the turtles that hatch in the CNMI travel to the Philippines where they are eaten, while the CNMI people are told to "stay back and don't touch." He noted that the Carolinian people in the CNMI have rituals attached to turtles.

"The greatest predator is the sharks," Hocog said, "not the human." He said they provide hardship to the CNMI fishermen. "For example, if you put 12 hooks down to catch onaga, ehu, whatever it is, you are very lucky when you pick up three out of the 12 on the hook because of the shark infestation around our islands." He noted that the CNMI is on the verge of developing infrastructure for its expanding tourism industry and that the hotels would need high-grade fish. The quality of the fish is seriously compromised when sharks remove the head or body of the fish.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council chair Edwin Ebisui Jr., CNMI acting governor Victor Hocog, and council executive director Kitty Simonds at the opening of the 166th meeting of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council last Monday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

The last consideration the acting governor asked the council to consider is the use of FDM by the Department of Defense for bombing exercises. He said the abundance of fish lies within 3 miles of the island. In the past, bombing exercises were done about once a month. Now they are almost weekly. "It makes it more difficult for fishermen to fish around that area," Hocog said. "These are the best fishing grounds for our people."

"Our people are being challenged by regulation," Hocog closed. "It might be a challenge but nothing is impossible. ... Together we can make things happen.... I look forward to see your results."

Council vice chair McGrew Rice (Hawaii) noted that Hawaii, Guam and American Samoa have the same issues, regarding the impacts of monuments on fisheries and the inability to conduct traditional turtle practices. He agreed with Hocog that, "we have to all work together."

Michael Tosatto, the regional administrator for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Pacific Islands Regional Office (PIRO), reported that the submerged lands in the Marianas Trench MNM Island Unit will be conveyed to CNMI by a Patent. He said a memorandum of agreement among CNMI, US Department of the Interior and U.S. Department of Commerce outlines coordinated management consistent with the purposes and requirements of the Presidential Proclamations 8335 and 9077. He said the 0 to 3 nm submerged lands at Maug, Uracus and Asuncion in the monument would hopefully be transferred by end of calendar year.

Richard Seman, council member and secretary of the CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources, brought up the broken promise of a monument visitors center. He said recent discussions revolve around who is going to fund the center as Congress never allocated or budgeted for this.

When queried by council executive director Kitty Simonds, Tosatto said monument funding includes one to the National Ocean Service (NOS), principally for the MNM in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI), and the other of around $3 million is shared by NOS and NMFS. PIRO uses its funds for staff and contracts. None is directly allocated to the territories. There is no initiative to increase the funding. The monument has not been identified as a high need.

Council members also brought up concerns about lack of co-management of the monument in American Samoa and lack of enforcement plans to address the proposed expansion of the NWHI monument.

During the meeting, the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources recognized seafood vendors who are voluntarily assisting the council and NMFS with collection of fishery data in CNMI that will help inform management of CNMI's fisheries.

During this first day of its four-day meeting, the council made a suite of recommendations regarding enforcement and CNMI fisheries:

The council recommended that a) NOAA General Counsel for Enforcement Section work with the American Samoa Government to determine the ability to access the funds from violations at the Rose Atoll MNM and the National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa; b) NOAA Office for Law Enforcement and U.S. Coast Guard determine the quantity and trends for U.S.-flagged vessels reporting incursions by foreign vessels in the US EEZ in the Western Pacific Region and provide a report to the Council; and c) the U.S. Coast Guard provide more frequent patrols of the U.S. exclusive economic zone (EEZ) around the NWHI. The council will also work with the federal fishery enforcement agencies to determine additional cost-effective methods to increase enforcement of the NWHI EEZ.

Regarding CNMI fisheries, the council will work with its CNMI Advisory Panel members and Mayors offices of Rota and Tinian to begin the process of developing community-based fishery management plans for each island. It will provide the CNMI Advisory Panel assistance in exploring the development of a marine biosecurity plan to protect CNMI fisheries resources. The council will hold a workshop with its advisory body members, the CNMI and Guam governments and representatives of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Philippines, and Japan to share information and management regimes, if any, and to discuss green sea turtle populations in the region. The Council will also explore options for training CNMI fishermen about fisheries methods and marketing so the fishing community can take advantage of increased tourism and development in the CNMI.

The council will recommend NMFS a) provide a training workshop for fishermen, vendors, conservation officers and other stakeholders on the federal bottomfish and federal shark regulations; b) conduct an economic survey in the CNMI to determine the expense and expenditure differences in fisheries between Saipan, Tinian, Rota and Guam to determine the differences between the islands as well as between the fishery sectors; c) design and implement a socioeconomic survey to determine the fisheries opportunities and impacts of increased recent development in the CNMI, given the new hotels and casinos in Saipan; and d) review the Marianas Trench MNM to determine any impacts to fisheries in the Marianas since the proclamation.

The council will work with the Department of Defense to reduce or mitigate the impacts on fishing at FDM and to improve communication with the community and local officials on Tinian regarding the Department's recent activities and data collection on the island.

The council continued its deliberations from 8:30am to 5pm yesterday at the Fiesta Resort in Garapan. On Thursday and Friday, the council will reconvene in Guam at the Hilton at Tumon Bay. Fishers Forums was also last night at the Fiesta Resort, CNMI, and Thursday night at the Hilton Guam. The Fishers Forum topic in the CNMI is on data, and the Forum in Guam will focus on mapping fishery resources. For more information, go to www.wpcouncil.org or email info.wpcouncil@noaa.gov.

Recommendations by the council that are regulatory in nature are transmitted to the Secretary of Commerce for final approval. The council was established by Congress under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act in 1976 to manage domestic fisheries operating seaward of State waters around Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI and the US Pacific Island Remote Island Areas.

Members of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council are appointees by the Secretary of Commerce from nominees selected by American Samoa, CNMI, Guam and Hawai`i governors: Michael Duenas, Guam Fishermen's Cooperative Association (Guam) (vice chair); Edwin Ebisui Jr. (Hawaii) (chair); Michael Goto, United Fishing Agency Ltd. (Hawaii); John Gourley, Micronesian Environmental Services (CNMI) (vice chair); Julie Leialoha, biologist (Hawaii); Dr. Claire Tuia Poumele, Port Administration (American Samoa); McGrew Rice, commercial and charter fisherman (Hawaii) (vice chair); and William Sword, recreational fisherman (American Samoa) (vice chair). Designated state officials: Suzanne Case, Hawai`i Department of Land and Natural Resources; Dr. Ruth Matagi-Tofiga, American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources; Richard Seman, CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources; and Matt Sablan, Guam Department of Agriculture. Designated federal officials: Matthew Brown, USFWS Pacific Islands Refuges and Monuments Office; Michael Brakke, U.S. Department of State; RADM Vincent B. Atkins, U.S. Coast Guard 14th District; and Michael Tosatto, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office. ***(PR)***

Business

Yellen's view of economy: Solid but laced with uncertainties

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen went out of her way Monday to stress that the U.S. economy appears fundamentally solid.

The job market has rebounded. Consumer spending is picking up along with confidence. Higher home prices have lifted household wealth. Low energy prices have strengthened spending power.

Yet the Fed chair also sent a contrasting message in a speech in Philadelphia: So many uncertainties surround the economy that it's impossible to sketch any timetable for when the Fed might raise interest rates again.

Thirteen times Yellen mentioned some variation of the word "uncertainty"—starting with a question raised by a dismal jobs report the government issued Friday:

"Is the markedly reduced pace of hiring in April and May," Yellen asked, "a harbinger of a persistent slowdown in the broader economy?"

She didn't claim to know the answer. The Fed, she said, "will be wrestling" with that question in the months ahead—just as it will be studying other uncertainties she pointed to. In contrast to what she signaled late last month, when Yellen said a rate hike would likely be appropriate in "coming months," she offered no timetable Monday for the Fed to resume raising rates.

AP

Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen takes part at a roundtable discussion at the West Philadelphia Skills Initiative in Philadelphia, Monday, June 6, 2016.

That "suggests to us that she is in no hurry," said Chris Rupkey, chief financial economist at MUFG Union Bank in New York. "We are telling clients to take the summer off. See all of you Fed watchers in September."

Among the uncertainties she noted in her speech:

THE JOB MARKET

Yellen called Friday's jobs report for May "concerning." Employers added just 38,000 jobs in May, the weakest monthly gain in more than five years. Job gains have now averaged just 116,000 in the past three months, down sharply from an average of 230,000 in the 12 months ending in April.

But Yellen noted that other gauges of the job market, such as fewer applications for unemployment benefits, have been more positive. She said the Fed would be studying whether Friday's jobs report marked a temporary slump or signaled more lasting troubles.

DOMESTIC DEMAND.

While the U.S. economy has been outperforming the rest of the world, its growth has depended on domestic demand, especially its main fuel—consumer spending. Yellen said a key question is whether U.S. demand can remain strong "amid fairly considerable global bumpiness." She said a particular concern is weakness in investment spending by U.S. companies, a slowdown that she said she thinks will prove temporary.

GLOBAL PRESSURES

Many of the financial stresses from abroad that erupted early this year have eased. But Yellen cautioned that there is still cause for concern, particularly from China. China is straining to rebalance its economy, the world's second-largest, away from export-led growth to more domestic demand. At a time of sluggish global growth, low inflation and ultra-low interest rates, investor sentiment could shift very quickly. Yellen said a particular worry is a negative reaction if British voters decide to leave the European Union in a June 23 vote.

WEAK PRODUCTIVITY

Even as the job market has strengthened, overall economic growth, as measured by the gross domestic product, has been tepid. In part, Yellen said, that's because productivity has been so weak. Productivity—the amount of output per hour of work—is a vital factor supporting rising living standards. Yellen noted that economists are divided over whether the productivity slowdown will soon end. The Great Recession, the Fed chair said, depressed spending on the research and development needed for future productivity growth. Once this spending rebounds, she said, productivity gains could accelerate.

Energy bill prospects dim in dispute over drilling, drought

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congressional efforts to approve the first major energy bill in nearly a decade are in jeopardy amid a partisan dispute over oil drilling, water for drought-stricken California and potential rollback of protections for the gray wolf and other wildlife.

A bipartisan bill approved by the Senate in April would boost oil and natural gas production while encouraging renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power, and increased energy efficiency.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, chairwoman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, called the overwhelming 85-12 Senate vote "a significant victory that brings us much closer to our goal of modernizing our nation's energy policies," while Sen. Maria Cantwell of Washington, the panel's senior Democrat, said the measure was "urgently needed."

But the bill's prospects dimmed after the House approved a series of election-year amendments last month that promote Republican priorities, such as increased drilling for oil and gas and overriding protections for the gray wolf and other species under the Endangered Species Act. The House bill also would promote hunting and fishing on federal lands, shift more water to California farmers and cut the flow for threatened fish.

The House proposal includes at least seven measures that the White House strongly opposes or has threatened to veto.

House leaders have named 40 lawmakers to serve on a joint House-Senate committee to negotiate a final agreement, but Democrats are threatening to use a procedural motion to scuttle Senate action unless the GOP amendments are withdrawn.

American will reward fliers based on dollars, not miles

DALLAS (AP)—American Airlines is following other airlines by basing perks like free flights on how much passengers spend on tickets, not how many miles they fly.

The change, which matches those at Delta Air Lines and United Airlines, starts with flights on Aug. 1 and rewards American's highest-paying passengers.

Elite-status members of American's AAdvantage frequent-flier program will earn bonus miles for every dollar they spend.

American signaled late last year that changes were coming, but gave few details until Monday.

AAdvantage is the oldest and biggest major airline loyalty program, with about 100 million members. It started with easy math: Fly one mile, earn one mile.

Today that simplicity is a quaint throwback. Airlines compete fiercely for high-paying customers—they lavish elite travelers with upgraded cabins, lie-flat beds, better food and bigger frequent-flier rewards.

American said most members will earn five miles for every dollar they spend on base fares and carrier-imposed fees. That multiple rises to seven, eight or 11 for elites—gold, platinum and executive-platinum members.

Miles alone will no longer make you elite. Starting Jan. 1, customers will have to hit annual mileage marks and spending minimums, including at least $3,000 for gold and $12,000 for executive-platinum. A fourth level will be added just below executive platinum.

"American is making it clear—if it wasn't already—the more you spend, the more love you get," said Brian Kelly, who runs a travel website called ThePointsGuy.com. He said it will be very difficult for most travelers to earn elite status on the major U.S. airlines.

After Delta and United announced that they would switch to spending-based rewards in 2015, American responded by giving bonuses to high-fare customers. American officials decided that the promotion wasn't a dramatic enough change.

Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg loses control of social media

NEW YORK (AP)—Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg briefly found his Twitter account hijacked, as were at least two of his other social media accounts.

Zuckerberg's Facebook account and password were not compromised, the company said in a statement; his account on Facebook-owned Instagram was also unaffected. Facebook Inc. said Monday morning that none of the company's systems or accounts were accessed and that Zuckerberg's affected accounts have since been re-secured.

A person close to the situation confirmed that Zuckerberg's LinkedIn and Pinterest accounts also were affected. Officials for both of those social media networks didn't immediate respond to requests for comment.

Screenshots preserved by the technology website Engadget showed someone with access to his largely dormant Twitter account using it to say Zuckerberg was "in the LinkedIn database" and inviting the social media mogul to get in touch. LinkedIn declined to comment.

It's not yet clear how the hack happened, although a spate of massive data breaches at companies—along with recent news that a 2012 breach at LinkedIn Corp. was much bigger that previously disclosed—has recently given hackers a wealth of password data to work with. Several high profile Twitter users have also had their accounts hijacked in recent weeks.

Zuckerberg's name is synonymous with Facebook, but the billionaire has several accounts on rival social networks, including one registered with Google Inc. None appear very active.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
17,920.33	2,109.41	4,968.71
+113.27	+10.28	+26.20
0.64%	0.49%	0.53%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3012	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7553	Philippine Peso	45.9046
British Pound	0.7008	Indian Rupee	55.2275	Singapore Dollar	1.3437
Canadian Dollar	1.2766	Indonesian Rupiah	66.3216	South Korean Won	1140.16
Chinese Yuan	6.4556	Japanese Yen	108.6509	Swiss Franc	0.9553
Euro	0.8784	Malaysian Ringgit	3.8439	Taiwan Dollar	32.371
		New Zealand Dollar	1.4444	Thailand Baht	34.968

Nation

AP count: Clinton has delegates to win Democratic nomination

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Striding into history, Hillary Clinton will become the first woman to top the presidential ticket of a major U.S. political party, capturing commitments Monday from the number of delegates needed to win the Democratic nomination.

Clinton's rise to presumptive nominee arrived nearly eight years to the day after she conceded her first White House campaign to Barack Obama. Back then, she famously noted her inability to "shatter that highest, hardest glass ceiling."

Campaigning this time as the loyal successor to the nation's first black president, Clinton held off a surprisingly strong challenge from Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders. He mobilized millions with a fervently liberal message and his insurgent candidacy revealed a deep level of national frustration with politics-as-usual, even among Democrats who have controlled the White House since 2009.

The former secretary of state, New York senator and first lady reached the 2,383 delegates needed to become the presumptive Democratic nominee on Monday with a decisive weekend victory in Puerto Rico and a burst of last-minute support from superdelegates. Those are party officials and officeholders, many of them eager to wrap up the primary amid preference polls showing her in a tightening race with presumptive GOP nominee Donald Trump.

Clinton has 1,812 pledged delegates won in primaries and caucuses. She also has the support of 571 superdelegates, according to an Associated Press count.

The AP surveyed all 714 superdelegates repeatedly in the past seven months, and only 95 remain publicly uncommitted.

Sanders plans to make the case to superdelegates that he is better positioned to beat Trump in November. While superdelegates can change their minds, those counted in Clinton's tally have unequivocally told the AP they will support her at the party's summer convention. Since the start of the AP's survey in late 2015, no superdelegates have switched from supporting Clinton to backing Sanders.

"We really need to bring a close to this primary process and get on to defeating Donald Trump," said Nancy Worley, a superdelegate who chairs Alabama's Democratic Party and provided one of the last endorsements to put Clinton over the top.

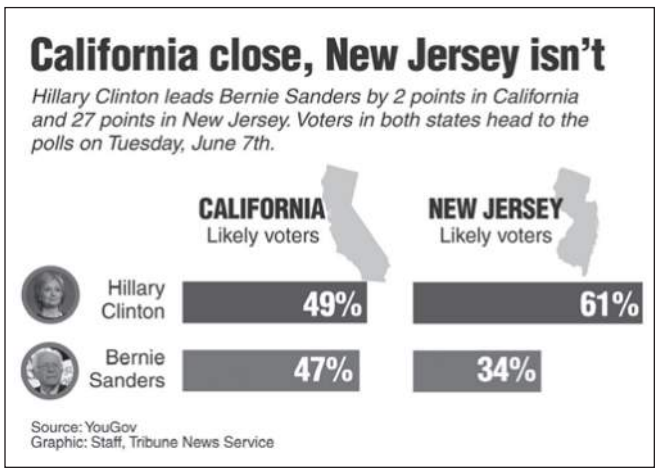
Clinton had a muted reaction to her claim on the nomination Monday night as she campaigned in California. She told a cheering crowd she was on the brink of a "historic, unprecedented moment," but said there was still work to be done in the six states to vote Tuesday.

"We're going to fight hard for every single vote," Clinton said at a rally in Long Beach.

Clinton's campaign had worried reaching the 2,383 delegate commitments could depress turnout in Tuesday's elections and give Sanders an edge. Even a strong showing for Sanders in California and elsewhere would likely still leave him well short in the delegate count, but it could give him more motivation to fight on to the Democratic convention in July.

AP

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton speaks at a rally, Monday, June 6, 2016, in Lynwood, Calif.



Florida AG asked Trump for donation before nixing fraud case

WASHINGTON (AP)—Florida's attorney general personally solicited a political contribution from Donald Trump around the same time her office deliberated joining an investigation of alleged fraud at Trump University and its affiliates

The new disclosure from Attorney General Pam Bondi's spokesman to The Associated Press on Monday provides additional details around the unusual circumstances of Trump's $25,000 donation to Bondi.

The money came from a Trump family foundation in apparent violation of rules surrounding political activities by charities. A political group backing Bondi's reelection, called And Justice for All, reported receiving the check Sept. 17, 2013—four days after Bondi's office publicly announced she was considering joining a New York state probe of Trump University's activities, according to a 2013 report in the Orlando Sentinel.

After the check came in, Bondi's office nixed suing Trump, citing insufficient grounds to proceed.

Bondi declined repeated requests for an interview on Monday, referring all questions to Marc Reichelderfer, a political consultant who worked for her most re-election effort.

Reichelderfer told AP that Bondi spoke with Trump "several weeks" before her office publicly announced it was deliberating whether to join a lawsuit proposed by New York's Democratic attorney general. Reichelfelder said that Bondi was unaware of dozens of consumer complaints received by her office about Trump's real-estate seminars at the time she requested the donation.

"The process took at least several weeks, from the time they spoke to the time they received the contribution," Reichelderfer told AP.

The timing of the donation by Trump is notable because the now presumptive Republican presidential nominee has said he expects and receives favors from politicians to whom he gives money.

"When I want something I get it," Trump said at an Iowa rally in January. "When I call, they kiss my ass. It's true."

Sister charged with murder after crash that killed twin

HONOLULU (AP)—A woman who was driving a vehicle when it plunged off a Maui cliff is charged with second-degree murder in the death of her twin, who was in the passenger's seat.

Prosecutors say Alexandria Duval, who is also known as Alison Dadow, intentionally caused the death of her identical twin sister, Anastasia Duval, also known as Ann Dadow.

The 37-year-old sisters were in a Ford Explorer traveling south on Hana Highway when they crashed into a rock wall last week, plunging about 200 feet onto a rocky shoreline, police said.

Anastasia Duval was pronounced dead at the scene. Her sister was taken to a hospital in critical condition.

Witnesses saw the two women arguing while the vehicle was stopped and said the passenger was pulling the driver's hair, Maui Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Emlyn Higa said. Then they saw the vehicle "accelerate forward and then take a sharp left over the cliff," he said.

One of the witnesses said the driver appeared to be in a rage before the vehicle went over the cliff, according to probable cause documents filed in court.

The vehicle's air-bag control module showed that the driver didn't attempt to brake before accelerating, making a hard left and hitting the wall, the documents said.

Hana resident Margie Aumaier said she was surprised anyone survived the crash after seeing that the vehicle landed on its side. Emergency workers used her yard as a helicopter landing zone for the complicated rescue, she said.

After being extricated from the vehicle, the driver didn't want to give officers any information and only identified herself as "Alex," the document said.

Alexandria Duval was arrested Friday at the Seaside Hotel.

"We had information after she was discharged from the hospital she attempted to fly out of the jurisdiction Wednesday night," Higa said. She wasn't able to leave Wednesday and had flight arrangements to fly to the West Coast Friday night, prompting police to arrest her, according to the court documents.

"All we know is she was trying to leave the state," Higa said. "We were afraid she would try to leave the country as well."

ACROSS THE NATION

Anger as trains resume after Oregon derailment, fire

MOSIER, Ore. (AP)—Local politicians and residents reacted with shock and anger Monday as Union Pacific began running trains through this tiny Columbia River Gorge town just three days after a fiery derailment forced residents to evacuate and water and sewage systems to shut down. Residents shot video from an overpass of trains sliding past crumpled and burnt oil tankers, some of them still dripping oil onto the tracks. The town's mayor and fire chief expressed deep concern about the trains running again before a full investigation was complete and before the damaged tankers were cleared. Trains began running Sunday through the town of about 400 people carrying mixed goods—but no crude oil. "This is all about money. They're willing to risk us blowing up again for their money to keep coming in," said Loretta Scheler, who rents out a two-story building just a few hundred feet from the tracks. "It's just insane."

Police investigating arsons around Seattle homeless camp

SEATTLE (AP)—Authorities are investigating a series of fires set in and around a Seattle homeless encampment along Interstate 5 known as the Jungle. The Seattle Fire Department said on Twitter investigators have determined that eight fires, including one in a vacant building Monday afternoon, were intentionally set. Seattle Police Capt. Paul McDonagh said Monday evening five initial fires were started with three blazes spotted later in the day, prompting a large police response and search for a suspect. The fires closed a portion of Dearborn Street for hours while firefighters extinguished the blazes. Seattle police also changed the suspect's description to a white man in his 30s, 5 foot 6 inches tall with short hair and possibly a Mohawk. Police said he was described as wearing black shorts and no shirt. Anyone who sees him should call 911.

Asia

US presses China over industrial glut

BEIJING (AP)—U.S. envoys pressed China on Monday to cut excess steel production that is flooding global markets and to reach a diplomatic settlement to territorial disputes in the South China Sea as the two sides opened a high-level dialogue.

The annual meeting of Cabinet-level foreign affairs, trade and other officials from both sides is meant to head off conflict. Officials acknowledged differences on an array of issues but repeatedly stressed their interest in amicable cooperation and pledged to work together to see the Paris agreement on curbing emissions of climate-changing gases ratified by the world's governments.

The U.S. agenda includes pressing Beijing to move faster with plans to shrink a bloated steel industry that its trading partners complain is flooding their markets with unfairly cheap exports, hurting foreign producers and threatening jobs. Washington has responded by imposing anti-dumping tariffs on steel, and European officials say they have launched a trade investigation.

"Excess capacity has a distorting and damaging effect on global markets," U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said at the opening of the two-day event, "and implementing policies to substantially reduce production in a range of sectors suffering from overcapacity, including steel and aluminum, is critical to the function and stability of international markets."

The annual Strategic & Economic Dialogue rarely produces agreements on major issues, but provides what officials on both sides say is a valuable setting to air disputes, clear up misunderstandings and share experiences.

This year's event is led by Secretary of State John Kerry and Lew on the U.S. side, and Vice Premier Wang Yang and State Councilor Yang Jiechi on the Chinese side.

Beijing announced plans this year to slash the size of its state-owned steel and coal industries at a cost of millions of jobs. But plans for other bloated sectors, including aluminum, glass and solar panels, have yet to be announced.

Watchdog: Afghanistan's lapis lazuli is a 'conflict mineral'

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghanistan's mineral wealth is helping fuel the war that has long ravaged the country, with armed anti-government groups—including the Taliban—earning up to $20 million a year from illegal mining of lapis lazuli, a London-based corruption watchdog said on Monday.

The group, Global Witness, appealed in its new report to have lapis lazuli, a blue stone almost unique to Afghanistan, classified as a "conflict mineral."

The lapis lazuli mines are mostly concentrated in northern Badakhshan province where the stone has been mined for centuries for use in jewelry and ornaments, prized for its bright blue hues. The province has been "deeply destabilized" by violent competition for control of the mines between local strongmen, law makers and the Taliban, Global Witness said.

Badakhshan is also a microcosm of what is happening across the country, as mining has become the Taliban's second biggest source of income, after drugs. The Taliban, who have been fighting to overthrow the Kabul administration for 15 years, control the production of opium poppies, mostly in the southern province of Helmand, the raw material for most of the world's heroin. The drugs trade is worth up to $3 billion a year, experts have said.

Afghanistan's mineral and petrochemical assets are believed to be worth billions of dollars, but the government does not have the money or expertise to develop them, and international firms are deterred by the deteriorating security situation.

Global Witness said that if properly developed, these assets could earn the government $2 billion in annual revenue. The report says the government lost at least $17.5 million in revenue from lapis lazuli alone in 2014, and $10 million in 2015.

The total earned by armed groups in 2014 was $19.9 million, the group added, noting that a local strongman identified as Abdul Malek had paid $750,000 in protection money to the Taliban out of proceeds from the illegal lapis lazuli mining. Last year, Malek paid the Taliban $4 million, the report says.

Former Maldives VP gets 10 years on terrorism charge

MALE, Maldives (AP)—A Maldives court has convicted the country's former vice president on a terrorism charge for possession of firearms and sentenced him to 10 years in prison.

The decision by the Criminal Court on Sunday in a session closed to the media made Ahmed Adeeb the fourth high-profile politician to be jailed on a terrorism charge since President Yameen Abdul Gayoom was elected in 2013.

Former President Mohamed Nasheed, former Defense Minister Mohamed Nazim and head of a leading political party, Sheik Imran Abdulla, are the others to get lengthy prison terms. Nasheed has since been granted asylum in Britain.

The cases have been criticized for a lack of due process violations.

Adeeb still faces charges of trying to assassinate Gayoom when an explosion hit the presidential speedboat last year.

Gayoom made his trusted young protégé Adeeb his vice president last July after sacking his running mate in the 2013 election.

However, Adeeb was arrested just days after the September blast on Gayoom's speedboat. The blast wounded the president's wife, an aide and a bodyguard.

Later, authorities charged him with possessing firearms prohibited under the country's terrorism law, and with corruption.

The government says the mysterious blast was an assassination attempt even though FBI investigators said they found no evidence of a bomb explosion.

Human rights groups have criticized Gayoom for jailing opponents and potential challengers in order to tighten his grip on power.

Nasheed along Gayoom's running made Mohamed Jameel, who also lives in Britain, and supporters of Nazim and Adeeb formed a united opposition in exile last week with the aim to oust Gayoom.

Maldives has a long history of being ruled by autocratic leaders.

Gayoom's half-brother Maumoon Abdul Gayoom ruled the country from 1978 to 2008 until he lost to Nasheed in the country's first multiparty election. Nasheed resigned in 2012 after weeks of public protests for his role in jailing a sitting judge.

World

Allegations of human rights violations in Fallujah fight

CAMP TARIQ, Iraq (AP)—As Iraqi security forces tighten their grip on the outskirts of militant-held Fallujah allegations of human rights violations are surfacing on both sides of the operation.

AP

An Iraqi woman sits in a minibus along with other families fleeing Fallujah, during a military operation to retake the city from Islamic State militants outside Camp Tariq, on the outskirts of Fallujah, Iraq, Monday, June 6, 2016.
AP

On Monday, hundreds of civilians, many bearing marks of torture were released north of Fallujah after being detained by a group of government sanctioned mostly Shiite militias. Five of those detained died while in the group's custody according to Yahya al-Muhamadi, an Anbar council member working with displaced civilians.

The militia forces, known as the Popular Mobilization Forces, are one of a number of different Iraqi security forces participating in the operation to retake Fallujah from the Islamic State group that has controlled it for more than two years.

The Popular Mobilization Forces deny that their fighters detain civilians.

"We are not authorized to detain anyone, we are just helping to move displaced people," said Hayder Mayahii, an official with the PMF's media office based outside Fallujah. Mayahii said his office was aware of the reports, but said they were completely false and the product of media bias.

Advances on IS strongholds underlines US, Russia convergence

BEIRUT (AP)—A two-pronged advance to capture key urban strongholds of the Islamic State group and its self-styled capital of Raqqa has underlined a quiet convergence of strategy between the U.S. and Russia to defeat the extremists, with Syria's Kurds emerging as the common link.

The dual advance toward Raqqa by the Syrian army from the southwest and the predominantly Kurdish Syria Democratic Forces from the north and west puts further pressure on the militants as they fend off simultaneous attacks on bastions such as Fallujah, and potentially Mosul, in neighboring Iraq.

The Kurdish involvement is proving vital to the interests of Washington and Moscow.

For the U.S., the predominantly Kurdish SDF has proven the most capable actor in northern Syria in defeating the extremist group, a point it made when its predecessor, the Kurdish YPG, held off the militants in Kobani, in 2015. That battle was seen by many as a turning point in the war on the IS group.

For Russia, the SDF advance has drawn IS fighters away from the front with the Syrian government and allowed the Kremlin's allies in Damascus to advance, showing that Moscow is participating in the battle against the IS group.

While the media has focused on the battles between Iraqi government forces and IS militants in the city of Fallujah, west of Baghdad, the Syrian army on Saturday reached Raqqa province for the first time in almost two years. The Syrian government has had no presence in Raqqa since August 2014, when IS overran the Tabqa air base and killed scores of government soldiers in a massacre they documented on video. The provincial capital, Raqqa, became the militants' first captive city.

WORLD BRIEFS

Rare militant attack on Jordan security compound kills 5

BAQAA REFUGEE CAMP, Jordan (AP)—An assailant with an automatic assault weapon attacked a local office of Jordan's national intelligence agency Monday, killing four guards and a receptionist in what the government called a lone-wolf "terrorist attack." The gunman was arrested hours after the early morning shooting, which took place on the first day of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. In his initial comments, government spokesman Mohammed Momani suggested Islamic militants were behind the attack, saying those involved were "criminal elements that don't represent our moderate religion." After the arrest of the assailant, Momani said it was a lone-wolf attack but that the investigation was continuing.

3 dead, 10 hospitalized as 1 Belgian train runs into another

HERMALLE-SOUS-HUY, Belgium (AP)—A passenger train slammed at high speed into a slow-moving freight train in eastern Belgium, killing three people and sending 10 others to the hospital, authorities said Monday. The accident came just hours after reported lightning strikes and a signal disruption on the line. Two cars from the passenger train derailed when it rear-ended the freight train around 11 p.m. Sunday in Hermalle-Sous-Huy, a hamlet on the Meuse River. Belgian prosecutor Brigitte Leroy said the passenger train was traveling around 60 mph (100 kph), and the freight 6-9 mph (10-15 kph) at the time of the crash. Earlier reports had said the freight train was stopped. State broadcaster RTBF said the dead included two passengers and the train's driver. RTBF TV reported many of the passengers were students in their early 20s returning to school after the weekend.

Focus

When Rio fails, sister city shows sewage cleanup possible

By JENNY BARCHFIELD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP

In this March 21, 2016 photo, researcher Rodrigo Staggemeier shows water and sand samples he collected in the water off Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, for a water quality study commissioned by The Associated Press. In April, police investigators conducted a sting at several of Rio's public utility waste treatment plants, collecting samples aimed at determining whether the facilities are just pumping raw sewage through and dumping it. Depending on the results, both the utility company, CEDAE, and its top executives could be handed pollution and larceny charges, the lead investigator said at the time.

NITEROI, Brazil (AP)—With thousands of liters of raw human sewage pouring into the ocean every second from Rio de Janeiro, August's Olympic Games have thrust into the global spotlight the city's spectacular failure to clean up its waterways and world famous beaches. But just across the Guanabara Bay from Rio, the sister city of Niteroi is showing that a real cleanup is possible.

In Niteroi, 95 percent of sewage is treated and authorities say they are on track for 100 percent within a year, even though Rio's failure to do its part means that sludge still flows in from across the bay. Rio has not only broken promises made to fix its sewage problem in time for the upcoming Summer Games, but the state has been downplaying expectations, even suggesting it might be 2035 before a full cleanup happens.

Niteroi's success underscores key factors that stand in stark contrast to Rio: privatization of sewage management, major investment in infrastructure and a high level of accountability and collaboration between the city government and the utility to define targets and meet them.

In Rio's Olympic bid document seven years ago, authorities pledged that an extensive cleanup—which included collecting and treating 80 percent of the city's sewage—would be one of the games' enduring legacies, but it simply never happened: An ongoing study commissioned by The Associated Press has shown that rowers, sailors and marathon swimmers will be exposed to waters so filthy they're roughly equivalent to raw sewage.

Why did Niteroi succeed while Rio failed? For starters, it doesn't help that Jorge Briard, president of the Rio state-owned utility known by its Portuguese acronym as CEDAE, says he isn't sure where those Olympic bid targets came from.

"'Why didn't you achieve the 80 percent that was stated?' That's the recurring question," Briard said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I always say, 'I don't know where the 80 percent came from. Certainly not from CEDAE. Here, no one mentioned 80 percent.' Mentioning percentages is something very dangerous."

The situation in Niteroi in 1997, when a private sanitation company won a tender to manage the city's sewage system, was even worse than Rio's is now. About a third of the population didn't have running water and more than two-thirds of sewage went untreated.

Over the past 15 years, the city has rolled out new treatment plants and hooked up hundreds of thousands of residents, whose waste flowed untreated into the area streams and rivers that run into the bay.

"City Hall got to the point where it had no other alternative but to look to the private sector for someone who could solve the big problems," said Carlos Henrique da Cruz Lima, planning director at Aguas do Brasil, the sanitation company.

It was a bold move. Similar situations existed—and continue to exist—throughout Brazil, and public utilities still outnumber private ones here by around nine to one. Until a decade ago, the legislative framework for private utilities was murky, leading to a legal battle over whether Aguas do Brasil had the right to operate in Niteroi. The case dragged on for two years before Brazil's highest court ruled in the company's favor.

The company has invested 500 million Brazilian reais (US$ 141 million) to expand the city's then-sole sewage treatment plant and build another eight units—as well as, crucially, to lay the pipes to transport the sewage.

With an estimated 95 percent of residents now on the sewerage grid, Niteroi ranks No. 5 nationally in terms of sewage treatment, according to basic sanitation watchdog Trata Brasil. The plan is to reach universal coverage, bringing the remaining 30,000 to 35,000 residents onto the grid within the coming year, Lima said.

By comparison, Rio treats about half its sewage—despite multibillion dollar cleanup efforts and broken promises stretching back more than two decades.

Sanitation experts say Niteroi has the advantage of being relatively small. The population is around 500,000 people, compared with Rio's 6 million.

That dynamic makes oversight and enforcement easer, cutting down on corruption in building contracts and management, long a scourge in Latin America's most populous nation.

Amid sharp criticism of the failed cleanup efforts in Rio and the ongoing AP investigation, local officials have been dialing down expectations.

Last year, Rio Governor Luiz Fernando Pezao acknowledged "errors" had been made in the bay cleanup. At an event at the governor's palace days after the July 30 publication of the AP investigation, an official with the latest cleanup task force pushed the target date back to 2035. Pezao is currently on medical leave and the governor's office didn't respond to requests for comment.

An independent study commissioned by The Associated Press over the last year has revealed alarmingly high levels of viruses and sometimes bacteria from human sewage in the bay as well as the city's other Olympic waterways. A risk assessment based on the AP data found those who ingest three teaspoons of water have a 99 percent chance of being infected by a virus, raising alarm among some elite athletes, although whether they actually fall sick depends on many factors. Several athletes fell ill while training last year.

The consequences of sewage exposure are more serious for the broad swath of Brazil's population for which regular exposure to untreated waste is an inevitable fact of life. Public health experts say children exposed to sewage fall ill more often, are less likely to attend school regularly and fully develop intellectually, and ultimately end up getting significantly lower-paying jobs than those from similar socio-economic backgrounds who grow up with basic sanitation.

Niteroi's vice-mayor, Axel Grael, said the private company's accountability has been a key factor in the sewage treatment, with specific quality control standards spelled out in the contract.

"Public utilities here have shown themselves to be inefficient, unable to make the needed investments at the speed the population demands," said Grael, an accomplished sailor whose two brothers are both Olympic medalists in the sport.

Briard, Rio's utility president, rejected arguments that his company had failed. He said ongoing infrastructure investment had boosted treatment of the city's sewage from a lackluster 11 percent in 2007 to 51 percent currently.

"It's a big advance," he said.

Briard said CEDAE's goal was to get to 90 percent treatment, but declined to provide a timeline.

"Water, I sometimes joke, we could even put on the moon," he said. "But sewage is complex engineering."

Rio Mayor Eduardo Paes has been less forgiving. While he points to ongoing improvements—last week he inaugurated a new sewage treatment plant—he says the city missed a great opportunity to modernize.

"It is a shame. And not just for the city of Rio de Janeiro," Paes said last week. "It's a national shame."

Briard downplayed the accomplishments in Niteroi, saying Aguas do Brazil piggybacked on work already down by CEDAE, such as development of a subterranean network of pipes. He also said that for nearly a decade the company didn't pay CEDAE for the water it provided, allowing it to make investments that wouldn't have been possible otherwise.

"If you don't pay for your raw material, or if you pay very little for it, it's clear your chance of being a success is very high," Briard said.

Global experts say that privatization is not always a solution. While historically public water utilities have tended to be hampered by inertia and slow to adopt new technologies, today some of the best sewage facilities in the world are public, said Kartik Chandran, a professor of engineering at Columbia University.

He pointed to those serving New York City, Washington D.C., Los Angeles and Seattle as leaders in the U.S., adding that stringent regulations and strict enforcement are the basis of success.

"If you look at regulations in developing countries, they are mostly the same as in the U.S. and Europe—and perhaps even adapted from that legislation—but there's hardly any enforcement," Chandran said.

In April, police investigators conducted a sting at several CEDAE waste treatment plants, collecting samples aimed at determining whether the facilities are just pumping raw sewage through and dumping it. Depending on the results, both CEDAE and its top executives could be handed pollution and larceny charges, the lead investigator said at the time.

Mario Moscatelli, a biologist who for decades has been the most visible face of the fight to clean up Rio's waterways, doesn't believe the authorities ever intended to make good on their Olympic promises.

Not providing basic sanitation has become big business, he said, referring to the allegation the company charges for services it doesn't perform. "It's a big official scam."

And it's affecting more than Rio.

While Niteroi has cleaned up its own mess, sludge is still flowing across the bay from its sister city. The two are separated by about 5 miles (8 kilometers) of bay water.

"It's been getting cleaner," said Renan Taboada, a 19-year-old from Niteroi, as he played soccer on the city's showcase Icarai Beach, "but it's definitely not as clean as we would like."

Good Housekeeping

Living Smart: DIY garage door maintenance

By STACI GIORDULLO
ANGIE'S LIST

There are a few DIY methods to maintaining your garage door, such as keeping the rollers lubricated. TNS

You don't have to be an expert to extend the lifespan of your garage door. In fact, there are a few simple DIY tasks that will keep any garage door looking good and running smoothly for years.

■ Check the tracks, rollers and hinges

It's important to give your garage door a once-over every once and awhile.

There are a lot of moving parts on a garage door—from the chain that moves it up and down, to the rollers that bring it up, to the hinges that allow it to bend. All of these items need to be inspected for wear and tear. All it takes is for one of these items to break or go off track for the entire system to fail.

■ Tighten all screws and bolts

It's worth paying attention to all of the moving parts of the garage door, but specifically loose bolts and nuts, which can cause larger problems. The opener is likely loud on its own, but if things are loose, such as the connection from the motor to the ceiling, the sound is likely going to be amplified. Check all the connecting nuts and bolts to be sure that they are tight.

■ Apply lubrication liberally

The biggest preventive maintenance task a homeowner can do is making sure that all the moving parts of the garage door are well lubricated.

Obviously, the less friction you have when the door opens, the less work the opener has to do, and the longer that motor will last. It's worth noting that not just any lubricant will do, so be sure to invest in one designed specifically for garage doors.

"(Homeowners) want to use a spray grease, and if they go to the garage door section of the big-box stores like Home Depot or Lowe's, they can usually find a good garage door lubricant," says Jon Jacobs of Sound Door Services in Seattle. "WD-40 is not great to use for garage doors."

Be sure to lubricate all the moving parts, such as the hinges, rollers and the bearing or pulleys.

To maintain your home's curb appeal, it's important the garage door looks its best.

To rid it of grit and grime, you can wash steel and aluminum door surfaces with a mild household detergent and then rinse with water. In harsh or coastal environments, apply a quality car wax to the front side of a steel door surface twice a year, immediately after cleaning, to help maintain the finish.

■ Paint the garage door

Your garage door is exposed to the elements the same way the exterior of your home is, but it has the added challenge of also moving and vibrating several times a day. If the paint is flaking off, this added movement will accelerate your need to paint.

Painting the garage door can likely be accomplished in a weekend. Make sure that you prepare the door for paint before you start the process by removing any dirt, caulk, flaking paint, oil, wax, mildew and rust. A steel garage door can be painted with a high-quality acrylic latex exterior grade paint. Do not use any type of oil-based paint or Alkyd modified acrylic latex paint.

(Staci Giordullo is a reporter at Angie's List, a trusted provider of local consumer reviews and an online marketplace of services from top-rated providers.)

Domestic workers speak out to make overtime requirement permanent

By MARCOS MARTINEZ
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

As a housemaid in San Francisco more than a decade ago, Luz Sampedro made $10 for a full day's work.

She was homeless, a single mother in her 30s raising a child, and living in the United States without documentation. Speaking up for fair pay didn't cross her mind.

Today, at age 45, Sampedro speaks up quite often. She is an advocate for domestic workers and an active member of Mujeres Unidas y Activas (Women United and Active), a community organization helping immigrant women and fighting for fair wages and human rights. She and the group are supporting a bill in the Legislature to ensure that California's estimated 300,000 domestic workers receive overtime pay for extra work hours. The bill recently passed the state Senate and now awaits a vote in the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee.

California already has a Domestic Worker Bill of Rights to ensure overtime pay, but that law has a sunset provision and will expire next year. Now, domestic workers organizations are campaigning for the approval of SB1015, which would make the Bill of Rights permanent.

But there is a lot of work left to do, advocates for workers say. Many domestic workers and their employers are still unaware that overtime pay applies after a worker's eighth or ninth hour of work in a day.

"Many of the workers and employers don't even know the law exists," said Sylvia López, a coordinator of Mujeres Unidas y Activas.

Fears of speaking out

Nannies, housekeepers, cooks, child care workers, personal assistants and caregivers working in private homes are entitled to the $10 minimum wage under state law, but a recent survey by Mujeres Unidas y Activas found that some domestic workers were being paid as little as $15 for an eight-hour shift.

"We found many cases of domestic workers that, due to their legal status, were afraid of demanding fair wages because they needed the job and because they feared being fired," López said.

Hina Shah, director of the Women's Employment Rights Clinic, a nonprofit organization that gives legal support to domestic workers, said workers should not fear denouncing abuses because they are protected from employer retaliation under the Trust Act, a bill signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown in 2013.

Shah said that employers who threaten workers with calling immigration because of their legal status are subject to serious penalties, including losing their business license and fines of up to $10,000.

Still, the Bill of Rights has helped many workers gain fair pay and dignity, said Lindsay Imai Hong, leader of Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network, a national network of employers of domestic workers.

According to the California Department of Industrial Relations, from July 1, when the Bill of Rights took effect, until April, 281 domestic workers' wage complaints were either settled, resolved or closed because of plaintiffs' lack of following up through the process.

Respecting workers

In the Bay Area, 570 households that employ domestic workers have pledged to pay them fair wages, Hong said. Statewide, 14,500 employers have also made this pledge, she said.

Sampedro said good compensation shows respect to the workers.

"We have achieved to get many employers to respect our work," she said. "Now many of them pay us 20 or 25 dollars (hourly). That is possible because we know our work is worth it, and we do it with professionalism."

But several home care companies argue that the Bill of Rights has hurt their business and ability to provide affordable services to their clients.

Opponents to making the Bill of Rights permanent include the California Association for Health Services at Home, an organization that represents more than 500 home health and home care agencies, and companies Care to Stay Home and Comfort Keepers.

Braden Oparowski, director of policy, advocacy and public affairs at the Association for Health Services, said the Bill of Rights has affected clients' access to in-home caregivers becauseof a rise in costs caused in part by the bill's overtime pay requirement.

The bill "has disturbed continuity of care for the individuals that needed it most and severely limited scheduling flexibility for the workers," he said. "Overtime pay is bringing up the cost of care for 24-hour care by hundreds of dollars a day."

Katie Joaquin, director of the California Domestic Workers Coalition, campaigned for the Bill of Rights and said the law needs to be extended so that "employers and agencies will not just be able to see it pass by, come and go, but that is permanently in place."

'Poor and unfinished law'

When domestic workers initially asked for protections, they had a list of about 30 demands, including the guarantee of at least eight hours of uninterrupted sleep. But in the end, the Bill of Rights included only the right to overtime pay.

María Reyes, an organizer of the National Domestic Workers Alliance, called it "a very poor and unfinished law."

Despite the advances made by the current law, there is still much to do, said state Sen. Connie Leyva, D-Chino (San Bernardino County), who introduced SB1015 to make the Bill of Rights permanent.

Leyva said SB1015 is the first step toward obtaining permanent protections for documented and undocumented domestic workers.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING ONE

Grilled Shrimp Scampi

Grilling puts a smoky, summertime twist on this traditional shrimp recipe.

1 lemon
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
3 cloves garlic
1/4 teaspoon dried oregano
Salt
Pepper
2 medium red peppers
12 ounces multigrain pasta
12 ounces medium shrimp
1/4 cup packed fresh parsley leaves

1. Heat large saucepot of water to boiling on high. Prepare grill or grill pan for direct grilling on medium-high.

2. Into large bowl, from lemon, grate all peel and squeeze 3 tablespoons juice. Stir in oil, garlic, oregano and 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper; set aside.

3. Grill red peppers 7-8 minutes or until crisp-tender and lightly charred, turning once. Transfer to cutting board.

4. Add pasta to boiling water. Cook as label directs.

5. Sprinkle 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper on shrimp. Grill shrimp 2 to 3 minutes or until opaque throughout, turning over once. Transfer shrimp to medium bowl. Add 2 tablespoons of lemon mixture; toss to coat.

6. Chop red peppers; add to large bowl with remaining lemon mixture.

7. Drain pasta; add to bowl with peppers, along with parsley and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Toss until well-combined. Serve pasta with shrimp. Serves 4.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

Life & Style

Wealthy next-door-neighbor is buying Playboy Mansion

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Hugh Hefner's Playboy Mansion is about to acquire a new owner—the wealthy businessman who lives next door.

Representatives for Playboy Enterprises and Daren Metropoulos confirmed Monday that Metropoulos' bid to buy Hefner's man cave is in escrow.

Both sides declined to reveal the sale price until escrow closes, but a representative for Metropoulos said terms would allow Playboy Magazine's 90-year-old founder to remain in the mansion for the rest of his life.

The home in LA's fashionable Holmby Hills was originally listed at $200 million, but local real estate agents said at the time that appeared ridiculously overpriced. A nearby property sold last year for $59 million.

AP

In this May 1, 1997, file photo, Victoria Silvstedt poses with her 1997 Porsche Boxter in front of the Playboy Mansion in Beverly Hills, Calif., before a lunch reception to announce her as the 1997 Playboy Playmate of the Year.

Metropoulos bought his current home next door to the mansion from Hefner in 2009 for $18 million.

The mansion, the scene of countless celebrity-filled parties and innumerable tales of sexual shenanigans, was built in 1927 and purchased by Playboy Enterprises in 1971 for $1.05 million.

It sits on 5 acres and has 29 rooms, including a game house, home theatre, wine cellar, gym, tennis court, swimming pool and four-bedroom guest house.

Metropoulos' home was built in 1929 and sits on about 2 acres.

"If the purchase closes and at some point after Mr. Hefner's tenancy ends, Mr. Metropoulos intends to reconnect the two estates, ultimately returning the combined 7.3-acre compound to the original vision executed by noted architect Arthur R. Kelly and its first owner, Arthur Letts, Jr., the department store heir whose father conceived and developed Holmby Hills when it was the Wolfskill Ranch," Metropoulos' business, Metropoulos & Co., said in a statement.

"In the meantime," the statement continued, "he is pleased to continue to have Mr. Hefner as his neighbor and feels fortunate and privileged for the opportunity to serve as a steward of this historic property."

The 32-year-old executive is the former co-owner and co-CEO of Pabst Brewing Company and co-owner of Hostess Brands, maker of Twinkies and other popular snacks. With his father and brother, he's a principal in the family investment firm Metropoulos & Co.

'Ninja Turtles' sequel kicks 'X-Men' from top of box office

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" sequel "Out of the Shadows" dethroned "X-Men: Apocalypse" at the box office in its opening weekend, but its victory, like its characters, was half-shelled.

The $35.3 million that the "Turtles" brought in amounted to nearly half the earnings of the first film's opening weekend.

"X-Men: Apocalypse" fell to second place with $22.8 million, bringing its domestic total to $117 million in two weekends in theaters.

The romantic tearjerker "Me Before You" opened in third place with a stronger-than-expected $18.7 million for the film based on the best-selling book, while the music mockumentary "Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping" managed an eighth-place debut with $4.7 million.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by comScore:

1 **"Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out Of The Shadows,"** Paramount, $35,316,382, 4,071 locations, $8,675 average, $35,316,382, 1 week.

2 **"X-Men: Apocalypse,"** 20th Century Fox, $22,825,484, 4,153 locations, $5,496 average, $116,998,716, 2 weeks.

3 **"Me Before You,"** Warner Bros., $18,723,269, 2,704 locations, $6,924 average, $18,723,269, 1 week.

4 **"Alice Through The Looking Glass,"** Disney, $11,314,635, 3,763 locations, $3,007 average, $51,396,232, 2 weeks.

5 **"The Angry Birds Movie,"** Sony, $10,214,076, 3,484 locations, $2,932 average, $87,116,802, 3 weeks.

6 **"Captain America: Civil War,"** Disney, $7,829,479, 3,084 locations, $2,539 average, $389,178,636, 5 weeks.

7 **"Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising,"** Universal, $4,863,365, 2,417 locations, $2,012 average, $48,723,590, 3 weeks.

8 **"Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping,"** Universal, $4,698,715, 2,311 locations, $2,033 average, $4,698,715, 1 week.

9 **"The Jungle Book,"** Disney, $4,445,272, 1,990 locations, $2,234 average, $347,667,933, 8 weeks.

10 **"The Nice Guys,"** Warner Bros., $3,453,344, 1,888 locations, $1,829 average, $29,054,194, 3 weeks.

11 **"Love & Friendship,"** Roadside Attractions, $2,146,666, 819 locations, $2,621 average, $7,029,040, 4 weeks.

12 **"Money Monster,"** Sony, $1,865,537, 1,323 locations, $1,410 average, $38,304,947, 4 weeks.

13 **"The Lobster,"** A24, $1,457,928, 560 locations, $2,603 average, $3,907,885, 4 weeks.

14 **"A...Aa,"** BlueSky Cinemas, $1,208,694, 126 locations, $9,593 average, $1,704,305, 1 week.

15 **"Zootopia,"** Disney, $753,723, 400 locations, $1,884 average, $337,183,405, 14 weeks.

16 **"Housefull 3,"** Eros Entertainment, $683,620, 145 locations, $4,715 average, $683,620, 1 week.

17 **"Batman V Superman: Dawn Of Justice,"** Warner Bros., $286,178, 270 locations, $1,060 average, $329,905,951, 11 week.

18 **"The Man Who Knew Infinity,"** IFC Films, $276,638, 195 locations, $1,419 average, $2,932,377, 6 weeks.

19 **"The Meddler,"** Sony Pictures Classics, $255,225, 232 locations, $1,100 average, $3,645,380, 7 weeks.

20 **"The Wailing,"** Well Go USA, Inc., $218,520, 32 locations, $6,829 average, $296,812, 1 week.

Sequels, once a sure thing, are slumping at the box office

NEW YORK (AP)—Sure things in Hollywood are beginning to look like an endangered species.

Sequels, for years the industry's most "can't miss" assets, are struggling at the box office this year. The downturn, which continued over the weekend with the low turnout for "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows," calls into question one of the industry's bedrocks of bankability.

Roughly two decades ago, the sequel—once largely seen as a blatant and disrespected cash grab—threw off its stigma. Comic-book serials and long-running franchises stretched the sequel business into a new realm of round-the-clock production and box-office records.

That era is nowhere close to ending; the most popular franchises have plans in place to last the next three presidential elections. But the recent sequel slump suggests that Hollywood may have become too quick on the sequel trigger—that maybe not every profitable movie deserves a second chapter, that the world might not have been craving another "Ninja Turtles" or "Zoolander."

No studio executive today could get away with not ordering up a sequel to a $1 billion-grossing movie like 2010's "Alice in Wonderland." Yet the drop was staggering for the badly reviewed "Alice Through the Looking Glass," which has made just $51.4 million domestically in three weeks.

"It's hard to argue with $1 billion and that's what I think keeps studios' finger on the greenlight: 'Press that button. Press it, press it. We just made $1 billion. Let's go, let's go,'" says Jeff Bock, senior box office analyst for Exhibitor Relations. "And at some point, that just runs into the ground. Even audiences can take only so much Vin Diesel."

Diesel's "Fast and Furious" franchise is one of the more astounding success stories in recent box office history. Last year's seventh installment topped $1.5 billion worldwide; naturally, there are plans for eight, nine and 10.

In such an environment, the fast-paced greenlighting of sequels isn't just good business, it's like minting money. Of the top 10 films of 2016 thus far, nine are sequels, spin-offs or reboots.

And while sequels may have recently dipped, originality is cratering. Last weekend, the romance "Me Before You" performed well with $18.7 million, but the well-received Andy Samberg comedy "Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping" flopped with just $4.7 million.

Still, "sequel underperforms" has become the steady drum beat of 2016. "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" has made $872.2 million globally, but the $250-million film has struggled to turn a profit for Warner Bros. and been roundly lambasted by critics and moviegoers alike. "X-Men: Apocalypse," ''Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising," ''Ride Along 2" and "The Huntsman: Winter's War" have all done worse than their preceding films.

Bock calls the recent sequel swoon a trend that should "cause panic" within the Hollywood studio system. It is, after all, a system currently built on the sequel business; a sequel problem for Hollywood would be like if cars went out of favor for Detroit.

"Conjuring 2" and "Now You See Me 2," will brave any sequel-itis this week. "Finding Dory," ''Independence Day: Resurgence," ''Ghostbusters," ''Star Trek Beyond" and "Jason Bourne" are all on tap this summer. Pixar's "Finding Dory"—a sequel to 2003's "Finding Nemo"—is widely expected to be among the season's biggest hits, and perhaps benefits from the 13 year break since the 2013 original.

"There is something to be said for absence makes the heart grow fonder," says Bock. "Studios need to realize that in the long term, you can kill a franchise really quickly, like the 'Spiderman' one, by throwing out films that are not near and dear to the hearts of audiences."

If there's a silver lining in the underperforming sequels, it's that few of them have been in franchises as blue-chip as "Spider-Man," which floundered in a too-quick reboot. It's not altogether shocking that another "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," a Tim Burton-less "Alice" and "Zoolander 2" weren't enticing to moviegoers; some of them are just plain bad.

Critical reaction has never been a key component of the sequel business; mediocre reviews did nothing to slow "Jurassic World" from becoming one of the highest grossing films of all time last year. But Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore, believes that with social media speeding up reaction, quality is becoming more essential to sequels.

"It's a wake-up call," says Dergarabedian. "It says to the industry just because something did well, you can't exploit it. You have to enhance it. It has to be additive if you want to make a great sequel."

'The Greatest Love of All' among songs inspired by Ali

NEW YORK (AP)—Before he was even heavyweight champion or had changed his name from Cassius Clay, Muhammad Ali was a force in the music world. He had befriended Sam Cooke and released an album featuring his comic poetry and a cover of the hit "Stand By Me." But starting in the mid-1960s, Ali himself would inspire songs of all kinds, from all over the world. Here are some notable releases about Ali:

"The Greatest Love of All"

Written by Michael Masser and Linda Creed for a movie few remember, the 1977 Ali biopic "The Greatest," this soaring, self-affirming ballad would conquer the world, first as a hit for George Benson, then as a standard performed by Whitney Houston.

"'Cassius Love' vs. 'Sonny' Wilson"

A 1964 comedy track by the Beach Boys that spoofed the Ali-Sonny Liston rivalry. Snippets of the band's hit songs were interspersed with insults exchanged between lead singers Mike Love and Brian Wilson, cousins who would feud for real in subsequent years. "Listen Mike, with a voice like yours, when you open your mouth it's a big putdown," Wilson cracks. Answers Love: "At least when I'm singing, it doesn't sound like Mickey Mouse with a sore throat."

AP

In this Feb. 25, 1964, file photo, Muhammad Ali, or Cassius Clay at the time, strikes a familiar pose as he shouts "I am the greatest," as he leaves the ring, arms raised, following his defeat of former heavyweight boxing champion Sonny Liston, in Miami Beach, Fla.

"The Louisville Lip (He's the Greatest)"

Memphis singer-songwriter Eddie Curtis used a funky blues track to tell Ali's story, with digs at Floyd Patterson, Liston and other Ali foes. The song came out in 1971, soon before Ali lost to Joe Frazier in 15 rounds at Madison Square Garden, quickly dating some of the lyrics: "He's the greatest, he's the greatest," Curtis chants, "don't you know it, Joe Frazier."

"Black Superman (Muhammad Ali)"

A mid-tempo reggae ballad by British artist Johnny Wakelin, released in early 1975 as a tribute to Ali's recent victory over George Foreman in the "Rumble in the Jungle" in Zaire. Wakelin sings some of Ali's own rhymes and adds original lines such as "He moves like the black superman/and calls to the other guy/I'm Ali/catch me if you can."

Miniseries based on journalist David Carr's memoir planned

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A TV miniseries based on the late journalist David Carr's best-selling memoir is in development.

AMC and Sony Pictures Television said Monday that "Better Call Saul" star Bob Odenkirk is set to play Carr.

Carr, who was a media columnist for The New York Times, died last year. His 2008 memoir, "The Night of the Gun," details his path from drug addiction to respected journalist.

The six-part miniseries will be written by Shawn Ryan, whose credits include "The Shield."

The AMC debut date for the project was not announced.

AP

In this Nov. 21, 2011, file photo, New York Times journalist David Carr poses for photographs as they arrive for the French premiere of the documentary "Page One: A Year Inside The New York Times," in Paris.

Tiger Woods to write book on '97 Masters

NEW YORK (AP)—Tiger Woods is getting back to work—as an author.

Woods is writing his second book, which will look back on his historic victory in the 1997 Masters, when he broke 20 records and became the first player of black heritage to win a major championship.

The book, which does not yet have a title, will be co-written with Canadian golf writer Lorne Rubenstein and be released in hardcover, as an e-book and in audio editions in March, a month before the 20th anniversary of his first Masters title.

"The 1997 Masters was one of the most important tournaments in my life for many reasons," Woods said in a news release issued Monday by Grand Central Publishing, which acquired the rights to the book. "I think about the hug with my dad and all the events that went on that week. A lot of people know generally about that tournament, but this gives me a chance to tell in detail what happened on and off the golf course."

AP

In this Aug. 23, 2015 file photo, Tiger Woods smiles at the third tee during the final round of the Wyndham Championship golf tournament in Greensboro, N.C. Woods is writing his first book since 2001 that is due out next spring.

The book will describe his history of the game and how golf has changed over the last 20 years. Woods also will open up about his relationship with his father, Earl Woods, dispel misconceptions and reveal stories that have never been told.

His first book came out in 2001 and was called "How I Play Golf," which was written with the editors of Golf Digest magazine.

The announcement of his second book promotes Woods as the first player of African and Asian heritage to win a major. Woods' mother, Kultida, is from Thailand.

Woman with secret fantasies hesitates before sharing them

DEAR ABBY: I am in a happy relationship with a wonderful man. Our life is great together and I wouldn't want it any other way. I have one issue, however. I like to look at lesbian porn maybe a few times a week. I don't actually want to be with another woman — it's just a fantasy of mine.

Is this wrong? Should I tell my boyfriend? I don't know if I'm making too much out of this, or if there are other women out there who are in the same situation.

CURIOUS IN TEXAS

DEAR CURIOUS: Books have been written about the many varied sexual fantasies women have. Yours is not unusual, and you shouldn't feel guilty about it. Nothing compels you to share your fantasy with your boyfriend unless you feel a need to. (But if you do, don't be shocked if he finds it a turn-on, because many men also fantasize about women having sex together.)

DEAR ABBY: I'm four months' pregnant by my ex-boyfriend. We ended our relationship six months ago but continued to see each other for sex. He's in the Army and has been diagnosed with depression and PTSD. At first he was my knight in shining armor, but after I moved into his house, he become mentally and physically abusive.

He is now in a new relationship. He changed his phone number and hasn't checked on me or our baby in weeks. I want him to have a relationship with his child, but every time I look at him I see a liar, a manipulator and an abuser who doesn't care about either of us.

How do I get over my feelings and convince him to be in our child's life? Or are my feelings justified and I'm just being a protective mother?

PROTECTIVE MOTHER

DEAR PROTECTIVE MOTHER: What a sad letter. It would be interesting to know how much of his abusive behavior was a result of his depression and PTSD. But if you think that a mentally and physically abusive man, who has changed his phone number and done his best to get out of touch with you, is a suitable father figure for a child, you are kidding yourself.

You will, however, have a chance to make him live up to his financial responsibilities to the baby if you discuss this with an individual who is in a position to help you—an attorney. Don't wait; start the conversations now.

DEAR ABBY: When I visited my sister 15 years ago, my brother-in-law tried to rape me. He was drunk and my sister was out with her friends. I have not revealed this to my family or my sister, who is emotionally and financially dependent on him.

My niece is now 20 years old and in college. I feel I should tell her what her dad did to me and warn her to be careful. What do you think?

NEVER FORGETTING IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR NEVER FORGETTING: Frankly, I think that if your brother-in-law was going to assault his daughter, it would have happened already, and you should have told your family what he tried to do to you at the time it occurred.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

DEAR ABBY

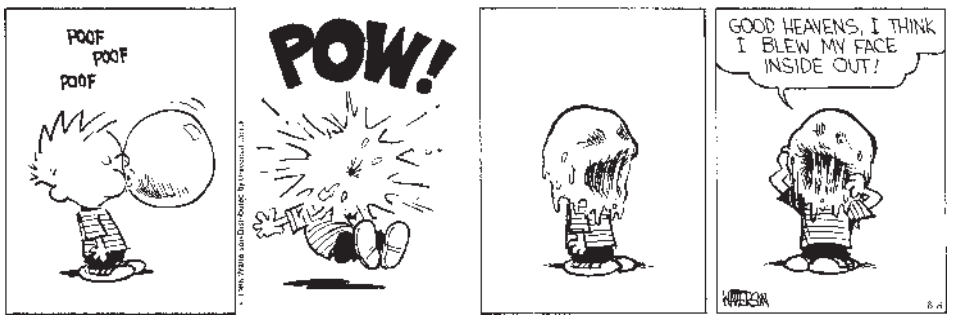
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

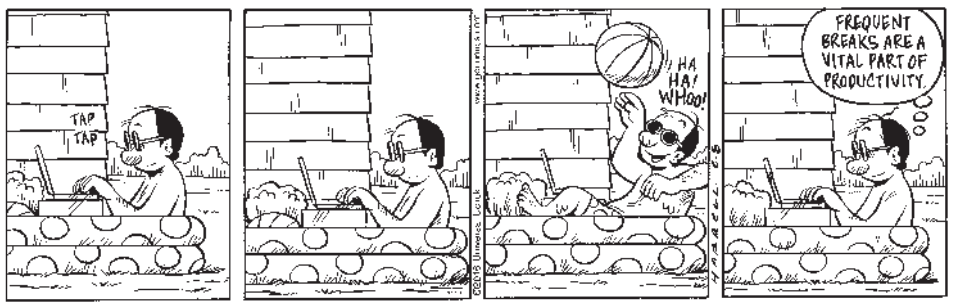


Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Cry like a baby
5 "The Voice" network
8 Probability
12 Sandwich cookie
13 — de cologne
14 Tide type
15 Where news stories are edited
17 Actress Fisher
18 Playwright Chekhov
19 Brings out
21 Whip
24 Neighbor of Ill.
25 "There!"
28 Reindeer herder
30 Ms. Thurman
33 College URL ender
34 Exposes
35 AAA job
36 Bottom line
37 Done with
38 Printer's blue
39 Pro vote
41 Soggy porridge
43 Jungle trek
46 Dieter's lunch
50 Messes up
51 No-cost perk from a book publisher
54 Writer James
55 Drunkard
56 Nozzle site
57 Three- — sloth
58 Have bills
59 Tarzan's clique

DOWN
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2 "East of Eden" son
3 Sobbed
4 Chicago university
5 Born
6 Some coll. degrees
7 Cool veggie
8 Leek's kin
9 Precinct-based job for a police officer
10 Broad valley
11 Hot tubs
16 "CSI" evidence
20 Bigwigs
22 Pole, e.g.
23 Seraglio
25 Sawbuck
26 Citric beverage
27 Like some airport shops
29 Lima's land
31 Extinct New Zealander
32 Bristle
34 Sow's mate
38 Latin dance
40 Allayed
42 Away from NNW
43 Membership
44 Jason's ship
45 In that case
47 Aerial stunt
48 Church area
49 Salon jobs
52 Tier
53 Tours season

Solution time: 23 mins.

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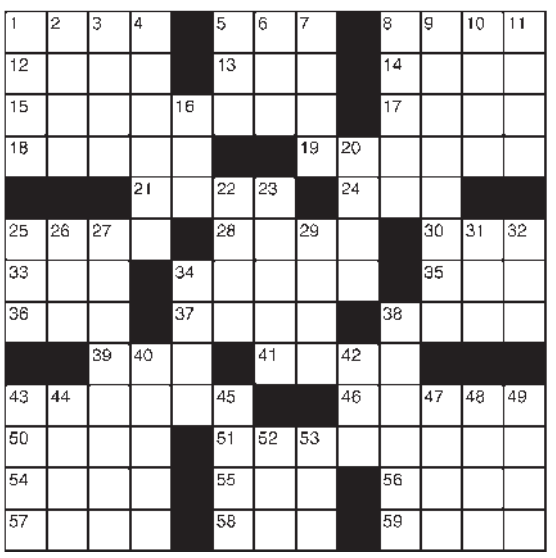
Yesterday's answer 6-8



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Maria Menounos, 38; Kanye West, 39; Julianna Margulies, 50; Keenen Ivory Wayans, 58.

Happy Birthday: Put your heart and soul into being your best. Don't let anyone influence you. Assess your situation, size up the possibilities and set your sights on the achievements you want to make this year. A solid partnership with someone who is headed in the same direction will help you reach your goal quickly. Work within the rules and regulations to avoid setbacks. Your numbers are 7, 18, 24, 28, 32, 34, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Protect your assets, possessions and your position. Not everyone will be as honest as you are. Spend on items that will help you make mental or physical improvements. Sign up for something that boosts your knowledge. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Your secrets will be revealed if you share too much personal information with others. Being a good listener will help you decipher what your next move should be. Problems at home will surface if you let your emotions take over. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Do your own thing. Don't follow others or let anyone entice you into doing things that are questionable or have the potential to fail. Take responsibility for your actions and strive to use your talents for positive gains. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Concentrate on what's important to you, and finish what you start. Your unique way of dealing with others will encourage someone to help you turn your ideas into a reality. Collaborate, educate and excel. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): The comments made by others will encourage you to make an abrupt change or move. You will take others by surprise and face some frustrations, but in the end, you will benefit from taking charge and doing what works for you. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Watch your back when it comes to business or dealing with partners. You can stabilize your position if you work hard and refuse to get involved in gossip or other people's affairs. Use your intelligence and business savvy. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You can make a difference if you take physical action in order to bring about change. Your ability to see all sides of an issue and play the role of a mediator will help position you for future advancement. Romance looks promising. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Keep your emotions hidden. Focus on expansion and developing something that interests you. A passionate approach will work as long as you don't get into a scuffle with someone who doesn't want to do things your way. Work alone. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Get your finances in order. Don't feel obligated to pay for others or let anyone guilt you into doing things that have the potential to go wrong. Bring about personal changes, but don't try to change others. Make a commitment to yourself. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Put your energy into your job and tidy up loose ends so that you can move on to more enjoyable tasks. Home improvements will pay off and make you the family hero. Protect against physical strain or minor injury. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Look at your position realistically and you will be able to set up a game plan that will help you position yourself for success. Try to be inclusive of others so they don't complain about being left out. Make physical improvements. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Take care of money matters and investments. Look over contracts and make amendments. Getting involved in activities that include children will be rewarding. Keep an open mind and don't be afraid to try something new. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are expressive and compassionate. You are strategic and courageous.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	5	3	1	6	7	8	4	
	9						2	
						1		
					4			
		7	3	2	9	6		
			6					
		1						
	6						5	
	7	8	4	5	2	9	1	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/08

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	5	6	4	1	3	7	8	2
4	7	3	2	5	8	6	9	1
8	2	1	9	6	7	5	4	3
6	1	4	7	9	5	2	3	8
2	8	7	3	4	6	9	1	5
5	3	9	1	8	2	4	6	7
1	6	8	5	2	9	3	7	4
3	4	2	6	7	1	8	5	9
7	9	5	8	3	4	1	2	6

Difficulty Level ★★ 6/07

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

MANGROVES Solution: 8 letters

T	Z	W	O	R	L	D	N	A	L	A	G	N	A	M
I	E	O	S	R	E	D	E	E	F	O	R	E	S	T
D	E	A	N	O	S	E	L	P	P	A	M	I	S	T
E	B	G	E	E	I	E	A	S	S	M	N	L	A	A
S	B	A	R	C	M	L	L	E	D	A	I	T	A	E
A	S	A	S	A	A	O	E	C	G	R	I	R	S	P
L	E	S	R	E	L	R	I	R	A	B	I	W	H	L
I	N	T	C	K	T	S	O	B	A	N	A	B	I	S
N	I	N	O	I	S	Y	E	H	L	M	R	R	N	E
E	L	E	A	I	P	E	H	G	P	A	R	A	S	A
S	E	M	S	T	Y	O	V	P	N	O	C	C	B	W
D	R	I	T	L	A	S	R	A	O	O	Z	K	U	A
E	O	D	A	L	G	A	E	T	E	L	P	I	R	T
E	H	E	L	R	E	T	S	B	O	L	A	S	H	E
S	S	S	Y	G	R	E	N	E	H	G	I	H	S	R

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 6/8

Algae, Apple, Bark, Barnacles, Biome, Birds, **Black**, Brackish, Coastal, Crabs, Ebbs, Feeders, Forest, Habitat, Halophytes, High Energy, Land, Large, Leaves, Lobster, Mangal, Organism, Palm, Peat, Rhizophoraceae, Roots, Saline, Salt, Seawater, Sediments, Seeds, Shorelines, Shrimp, Shrubs, Soil, Sponges, Swamp, Tides, Trees, Tropics, World, Zone

Yesterday's Answer: Coronation

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: A splitting headache

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	**$15**	**$30**
• 5-Liner	**$24**	**$45**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

MIGRAINE

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HOUSE FOR RENT/LEASE

LOCATION: DAN DAN SAIPAN
2 BEDROOMS, 1 BATH, KITCHEN, GARAGE, OUTSIDE KITCHEN/BAR B QUE AREA, OCEAN VIEW OF FORBIDDEN ISLAND
PRICE: $500 PER MONTH
1ST AND LAST MONTH RENT AND DEPOSIT REQUIRED
UP TO 15 YEAR LEASE AVAILABLE

CALL: **GLENN @ 287-4536** OR EMAIL **gmanglona@gmail.com**

CDA Commonwealth Development Authority

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

POSITION	:	Business Development Specialist
ANNUAL SALARY	:	$25,000 - $30,000
EMPLOYMENT TERM	:	Two (2) Years, renewable
CLOSING	:	Thursday, June 16, 2016

This position is an excepted service position. The employee works under the immediate supervision of the Economic Development Analyst. Performs tasks independently but seeks additional expertise when deviation from accepted practices are identified and as directed by the Economic Development Analyst. The employee serves as technical support and may lead less experienced staff and clerical staff. Completed projects are reviewed for adherence to basic principles of business management, rational conclusions and in conformance with policy.

The employee in this class performs technical and specialized duties in the collection and evaluation of data relating to the enforcement and compliance process of the Qualifying Certificate Program. The employee is required to perform timely and competent field inspection of QC recipients and prepares comprehensive reports thereon.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
- Issues QC Applications and investment packets;
- Accepts, evaluates and processes applications;
- Conducts investigations for compliance and reporting;
- Maintains business relations with business organizations and government agencies for the effective delivery of the QC Program;
- Interfaces with program officials and interrelated agencies and facilities within the community to ensure that QC objectives are accomplished;
- Assists in the development and management of business promotional activities;
- Assists in communicating awareness and image of the Authority as the primary advocate of business;
- Provides support for QC Program and other CDA program objectives; and
- Performs all other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS:
Must hold a Bachelors Degree from a U.S. accredited college or university in Business Administration, Economics, Marketing, International Business, Finance or a closely related field. Two (2) years work experience in any business related field. Copy of degree/official transcript and police clearance must be attached to the application.

SKILLS:
- Some knowledge of laws, regulations, policies and services of the Authority.
- Some knowledge of principles and practices, rules and regulations governing the QC Program.
- Ability to interpret laws, contracts, ordinances and regulations.
- Make sound decisions, recommendations, and formulate solutions consistent with QC Program, its policies and procedures.
- Manage, and direct less experienced professional and clerical staff under his/her leadership.
- Ability to effectively communicate orally and in writing with QC recipients, management, other employees and the general public.
- Ability to work exceptionally well with management, counsels, fellow employees and the general public.
- Ability to perform financial calculation and interpret the same.
- Ability to maintain records and produce reports.
- Exhibit a "self-starting" approach to work.
- Possesses strong management skills.
- Possesses good computer skills in word processing, spreadsheets and desktop publishing.
- Evaluate and formulate solutions to complex situations.

For more information, please check "JOB OPPORTUNITIES" on our website at www.developmentcnmi.com

INTERESTED APPLICANTS SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATION FORMS TO:
Office of Personnel Management
PO Box 5153 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Key Functions:
The Executive Assistant will help the Executive Officer and the President maintain organizational relationships and act as the main point of contact particularly for business partners and customers in and from China, as well as colleagues and peers in the local Chinese Community. The Executive Assistant should support the management of the President's time and calendar to ensure that the President is fully informed and prepared for all meetings with such stakeholders and to assist in organizing events. The Executive Assistant should be highly organized, able to multi-task and manage multiple time-sensitive demands, have exceptional inter-personal and communication skills and support the mission of the organization. This professional must possess a combination of strategic thinking skills and the demonstrated ability to implement and manage the daily logistical demands of a project centered staffs who work cross functionally to respond to the needs of the organization and its constituents.

Job Requirements:
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and/or Information Technology. With excellent English and Chinese communication skills both oral and written. Must possess experience in MS Office suite. One-year related experience in administrative type functions an advantage. Service-oriented, with strong organizational skills, active listening and active learning is required. Must be open to a variety of responsibilities, changing assignments, and be an overall team player.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, June 15, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

BIG BELL, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(8) CARPENTER
(6) ELECTRICIAN
(8) MASON
(4) PAINTER
(6) STEELMAN

Must have 2 yrs experience
Submit application to
Big Bell Inc, Office
Koblerville, Saipan

Big Bell Inc is an Equal Opportunity Employer

REQ Day & Night Child Care

Job Vacancy Announcement

(3) Day Care Workers
- CCDF or DCCA Certification Required
- Willing to work flexible hours
- Must be reliable
- Medical Background is a plus
- Three years' experience in Child Care

(3) Teachers
- BSE/ED Graduate
- Three years' experience in head start, pre-school and afterschool teaching
- Must be computer literate
- Must have tutorial experience
- Certification in tutorial is a plus.

Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications.

If interested, please email resume to reqchildcare@yahoo.com

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

SALES REPRESENTATIVE - HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

A minimum of 3 years work related experience required with a successful, proven sales record. Ideally with an Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing or related field with experience in F&B, menu preparation & costing. Must be able to lift 50lbs. Ideally would have understanding of wine distribution. Makes outside sales calls to established customers and cold calls to potential customers. Coordinates deliveries. Researches potential products from experience, menu content or health requirements. Proficient in MS Excel, Word, Outlook. Ability to speak Cantonese, Japanese or Korean an advantage. Must have a valid driver's license. Availability to work evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Interested applicants must have their own reliable transportation. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

ACCOUNTANT

BA in Accounting and a minimum of 3 years experience is required, including preparation of financial statements, processing accounts receivables & payables and other general accounting procedures. Must possess work-related skills, have knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory control and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and SAGE or similar accounting system. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants may submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by June 24th, 2016. Applications may also be sent to:info@dqsaipan.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment.
Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

FRONTLINE MARITIME LLC

JOB VACANCY

AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING (ABS) CERTIFIED WELDERS

6 POSITIONS FOR SMAW

Must have min 3 years recent continuous welding experience or hold IACS welding certificate not older than year 2013

Company will sponsor suitable candidates for further certification by ABS.

Please send resume with detailed work/welding experience

Closing Date: 12-June-2016

Please call or e-mail for details of benefits and terms and conditions of employment

TF: 251-423-0828 • FAX: 251-202-4894
e-mail: frontmar@frontmar.com

EMPLOYMENT

1 Commercial Cleaner
1 General Maintenance. 3-5 years experience with valid driver's license. Police Clearance required. Email resume to San Vicente Estates at cisco.cnmi@yahoo.com.

1 Building & Grounds Maintenance. $6.05/hr. Mail resume to Pacific International Marianas, Inc. dba Midway Motors. P.O. Box 500887 Saipan MP 96950.

1 Electrician $6.05/hr. Mail resume to C&H Saipan, Inc. P.O. Box 501608 Saipan, MP 96950.

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

Warehouse for RENT

REM LOWERBASE

Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

Wanted - Commercial cleaner for diving business on Rota. Five years experience, high school diploma, 2 letters of recommendation from former employers and police clearance required. Minimum salary. Position starts on October 2, 2016. Call 532-3423 for interview.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

2 Cook

With 2-3 years experience
Willing to work on flexible hours.
Please send resume to
JNJ CORPORATION
PMB 114 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Auto Mechanic

High School graduate, with at least one year experience as auto mechanic, salary will commensurate with qualifications & experience. Please apply personally with resume & police clearance at **Dream Plan Action dba DPA Car Mart,** San Antonio, Saipan MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 235-8688

JAR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
Job Vacancy Announcement

(2) MASON
- With 4 to 5 years experience

If interested, send resume to:
P.O. Box 504249 CK
Tel: 285-5354

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Li'l Hands Music School
Music Teacher
Conservatory of Music graduate
major in Piano 5 yrs.
E-mail: littlehandsmusic@yahoo.com

Job Vacancy Announcement

(7) Cook
(4) Waiter/Waitress
(1) Restaurant Manager

Applicants should have a minimum 3 years work related experience. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service, preferably knows how to speak Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours.

(1) Maintenance Technician

Minimum 3 years work related experience. Flexible working hours.

Please mail resume to
PMB 373 Box 10003, MP 96950 or email
newsic426@gmail.com.
New Star International Corporation dba
Mura Ichiban Restaurant.

JOBEL CORPORATION
PO BOX 505223, SAIPAN MP 96950
TEL: 256-0287

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

1 ASSISTANT TEACHER

Compensation of $6.05 per hour paid bi-weekly subject to deductions of taxes and other withholdings as required by law.

1. Work Schedule: Monday through Friday, total of 32 – 40 hours per work week and subject to change.
2. Entitlement to overtime pay with current hourly rate x 1.5% if total hours exceed 40 hours per work week.
3. Workers Compensation

Job Description
- Assist students in classrooms, halls, cafeterias, school yards, and gymnasiums
- Must be able to communicate effectively
- Must have 2 years of experience working with small children.

Job Vacancy Announcement

4 Sales Associate–Minimum 3 years work experience.
1 Store Manager–Minimum 5 years work related experience.

Must be able to consistently demonstrate customer service. Preferably knows how to speak and read Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours.

1 Accountant–Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. Minimum 5 years work experience. Proficient in MYOB/AccountEdge Premium Accounting Software, MS Word, Excel. Effective oral and written communication skills.

Applicants should mail their resume to PMB 1118 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950 or email saipanbest07@gmail.com. American Saipan Best Corporation dba Saipan Best Shopping Market.

DOCOMO PACIFIC (SAIPAN), INC. has openings for:

Two (2) Field Technicians
Minimum Qualifications: Associate's degree in Electronic or Electrical Engineering or Technology, or closely related field (may be foreign equivalent) and two years experience as a Field or Engineering Technician or closely related job for telecommunications or cable company.
Duties: Install new premises wiring, disconnect drop line, de-install "wreck-out" of drop line systems, and re-connect previous customers. Install advance services such as high speed internet, Digital, and VOIP phone service. Troubleshoot and repair all problems occurring within the CATV drop system from the output of the distribution tap to all terminal points within a drop system. Understand the proper operation of customer premises equipment such as analog boxes, High speed internet modems and be able to educate customers on its proper use. Monitor for and document CATV leakage. Create CLI leak reports and repairs leakage as required. Lead crew as assigned. Repair sources of CATV leakage from distribution tap to CPE in customers home. Perform audit of questionable connections to distribution taps. Perform sales of new services or upgrades of existing customers. Maintain accurate records of daily tasks. Work safely and follow all OSHA, NEC, and company safety rules and procedures.

One (1) Bench Technician
Minimum Qualifications: Associate's degree in Electronic or Electrical Engineering or Technology, or closely related field (may be foreign equivalent) and two years experience as a Bench Technician for a telecommunications or cable company. Solid interpersonal communications skills. Highly motivated individual.
Duties: Perform component level bench repair of various electronics equipment. Operate various test equipment to diagnose and isolate electronic problems. Interpret schematic diagrams. Utilize computer to document and record findings and to perform research. Perform after hours stand-by for emergency calls on operational head-end equipment and systems. Perform related duties as assigned. Perform all tasks related to the Hybrid Fiber Coaxial System's operation and maintenance. Improve all aspects of the Headend for the HFC Operation and Maintenance. Operate Fusion Splicer. Test fiber strands with an OTDR and other fiber test equipment. Possess knowledge of Headend Wiring/Cabling Documentation. Perform troubleshooting of the Headend. Possess knowledge of PathTrak Return Path Monitoring System and Stealth Sweep System. Possess knowledge of FCC compliance testing. Must be able to operate a Spectrum Analyzer and MPEG Analyzer. Observe all OSHA, NEC, and company safety rules and procedures. Perform other related duties, as assigned.

One (1) Fiber Technician
Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma (may be foreign educational equivalent) or GED; four years experience as a Fiber or Maintenance Technician or Broadband Cable T.V. Technician for a telecommunications or cable company; must be able to operate Fusion Splicer and test fiber strands with an OTDR and other fiber test equipment; and must have knowledge of the Headend Wiring/Cabling Documentation and PathTrak Return Path Monitoring System.
Duties: Perform all tasks related to the Hybrid Fiber Coaxial System's operation and maintenance. Improves all aspects of the Headend for the HFC Operation and Maintenance. Operate Fusion Splicer. Test fiber strands with an OTDR and other fiber test equipment. Possess knowledge of Headend Wiring/Cabling Documentation. Perform troubleshooting of the Headend. Possess knowledge of PathTrak Return Path Monitoring System and Stealth Sweep System. Possess knowledge of FCC compliance testing. Must be able to operate a Spectrum Analyzer and MPEG Analyzer. Observe all OSHA, NEC, and company safety rules and procedures. Perform other related duties, as assigned.

One (1) Inventory Support
Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma (may be foreign educational equivalent) or GED; computer literate with the ability to enter inventory data and run inventory reports as required; must have basic knowledge of MIND billing system and inventory control procedures; and computer skills, including Internet, MS Office (Word, Excel, etc).
Duties: Cellular handset feature/capability knowledge (training will be provided). Programming/ provisioning of all handsets. Understanding of all applications/protocols required for handsets and wireless devices. Monitor business services and retail counter for all inventory requests. Monitor regular inventory reports to determine which products can be scheduled for regular delivery in order to reduce the necessity of special orders. Assist with deliveries to retail locations when needed.

Fore more information or to apply, please visit our website: **www.docomopacific.com/careers.**

Docomo Pacific (Saipan), Inc. offers an excellent benefits package.

- Individual must be authorized to work in the U.S. and its territories.
- Docomo Pacific (Saipan), Inc. is a drug free work place and, therefore, a substance abuse test is also required.
- Docomo Pacific (Saipan), Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Docomo Pacific (Saipan), Inc. provides equal opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, marital status, amnesty, or status of a covered veteran, including disabled veterans or veterans with service connected disabilities in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.

CHAMPION FINANCE

Champion Finance is looking for Dynamic individuals who would like to be a part of our team for the following post.

Loan / Financial Manager

Duties:
- Review loan agreements to ensure that they are complete and accurate according to policy.
- Approve, reject, or coordinate the approval or rejection of lines of credit or commercial, real estate, or personal loans.
- Analyze applicants' financial status, credit, and property evaluations to determine feasibility of granting loans.
- Review collection reports to determine the status of collections and the amounts of outstanding balances.
- Set credit policies, credit lines, procedures and standards in conjunction with senior managers.
- Oversee the flow of cash or financial instruments.
- Prepare financial or regulatory reports required by laws, regulations, or boardsof directors.
- Develop or analyze information to assess the current or future financial status of firms.
- Evaluate financial reporting systems, accounting or collection procedures, or investment activities and make recommendations for changes to procedures, operating systems, budgets, or other financial control functions.
- Establish procedures for custody or control of assets, records, loan collateral, or securities to ensure safekeeping.
- Plan, direct, and coordinate risk and insurance programs of establishments to control risks and losses.

Education/Experience:
- Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Business Administration or Accounting and 2 years' experience in Finance will be a plus. Salary will be discussed upon interview.

Interested candidates are requested to submit their resumes or pick up an employment application at
Champion Finance, 3rd floor, Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 316-B
or email championfinancecnmi@gmail.com

BUBBA GUMP SHRIMP CO. RESTAURANT & MARKET

is now accepting applications for experienced:

- Supervisors
- Kitchen Helpers
- Servers
- Cooks

Apply in person at the **Triple J Corporate Office**, Ground Floor, Silver Hotel, Brigida Street, Chalan Kanoa, Monday through Friday, 9am to 12noon.

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.
corpoffice@triplejsaipan.com

Triple J is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Curry won't be on US Olympic team in Rio

OAKLAND (AP)—Stephen Curry has withdrawn from consideration from the Olympics, leaving the U.S. basketball team without the NBA's MVP.

Curry said Monday in a statement that he has decided to pull out for "several factors —including recent ankle and knee injuries."

He didn't say what the other factors were that he referenced. Several athletes have expressed concerns about the water situation in Rio and the Zika virus.

The guard is the highest-profile absence for the two-time defending gold medalists, who will already be without NBA All-Stars Chris Paul and Anthony Davis.

Curry has won a pair of world titles with the Americans and was a starter when they won the 2014 Basketball World Cup. He had spoken of wanting the chance to win Olympic gold, but missed six games in the postseason with a right knee injury.

"My previous experiences with USA Basketball have been incredibly rewarding, educational and enjoyable, which made this an extremely difficult decision for me and my family," Curry said.

"However, due to several factors—including recent ankle and knee injuries - I believe this is the best decision for me at this stage of my career."

Curry said he had spoken with his family, the Warriors and his representatives, and recently informed USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo that he would not go to Brazil.

"Obviously we are disappointed that Steph will not be available this summer, but we understand these situations arise and we are fully supportive of his decision," Colangelo said.

Curry's decision to withdraw was first reported by the Mercury News.

The Americans have a list of 31 players in their roster pool for this summer - and plan to name their 12-man roster later this month.

Curry, the first player to be voted a unanimous MVP and the league's leading scorer, certainly would have been on it. He started all nine games for the Americans in Spain, averaging 10.7 points, and his USA Basketball experience dates to when he played for the under-19 team in 2007 that won a silver medal.

He could have been the team's biggest star in Rio, with Kobe Bryant retired and LeBron James still uncommitted. But Curry decided it's more important that he rest, following a demanding regular season in which the Warriors set the NBA record with 73 victories, and a postseason run that's included ankle and elbow injuries on top of the sprained knee.

AP

In this July 28, 2014, file photo, Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry (43) dunks the ball during a USA Basketball minicamp practice, in Las Vegas. Curry has withdrawn from consideration from the Olympics, leaving the U.S. basketball team without the NBA's MVP.

"It's an incredible honor to represent your country and wear 'USA' on your chest, but my primary basketball-related objective this summer needs to focus on my body and getting ready for the 2016-17 NBA season," Curry said.

The Warriors, who have a 2-0 lead over Cleveland in the NBA Finals, could still have a strong presence at the Olympics. Klay Thompson, Draymond Green, Andre Iguodala and Harrison Barnes remain candidates for the U.S. team, while Andrew Bogut (Australia), Anderson Varejao and Leandro Barbosa (Brazil) and Festus Ezeli (Nigeria) are on the rosters of their countries.

Paul, who won two golds with the U.S., had already opted not to play this time, and fellow point guards John Wall of Washington and Mike Conley of Memphis are coming off injuries. The Americans still have Oklahoma City's Russell Westbrook, Cleveland's Kyrie Irving and Portland's Damian Lillard as possibilities at the position.

But Curry likely would have started either ahead of them or alongside one in the U.S. backcourt, as he did as the shooting guard next to Irving in 2014. He made 43.8 percent of his attempts then from the shorter international 3-point arc, and the Americans will miss his shooting against the zone defenses they face.

Colangelo said he had been in contact with Curry since his injuries and was aware the decision to withdraw was possible.

"Steph has always represented his country in an exemplary manner, and we are sorry that he won't be able to be with us this summer," Colangelo said.

The Spurs' LaMarcus Aldridge also has withdrawn from consideration because of a finger injury this spring.

Curry will miss the chance to play for the Americans in his home arena, as the U.S. will play China in an exhibition game at Oracle Arena in July.

As finals moves to Cleveland, Warriors looking unbeatable

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—When the Golden State Warriors returned to Cleveland in January for the first time since clinching the championship there last June, Stephen Curry raised a little stir when he said he hoped the visiting locker room "still smells a little bit like champagne."

The way the Warriors have thoroughly thrashed the Cavaliers through two games of the NBA Finals rematch, the MVP could soon be drenching that carpet again.0

The Warriors won the first two games of the series by a combined 48 points, exhibiting a toughness and ferocity that was overshadowed by their glitzy offense during a record-setting regular season.

They have beaten LeBron James seven straight times—something no team has done before—and completely outclassed the Cavaliers in every facet of the game. The Cavaliers head home for Games 3 and 4 looking for answers they may not be capable of finding.

"I know the other side is looking forward to coming to our building where they had a lot of success last year," said James, who let it be known in January that Curry's comment didn't sit well with him. "So we've got to bear down."

Even more troubling for the Cavaliers is that the Warriors have not been the precise offensive machine they were during their 73-win regular season. They have turned the ball over 30 times in the two games and Curry is averaging just 14.5 points per game.

But the Warriors have dominated the series with defense and rebounding, blasting the Cavs on the glass, locking down Kyrie Irving and making James work to get to the rim.

"I just think it's easy to fall in love with our offense," Warriors guard Klay Thompson said. "For the casual fan, the whole year they see the highlights. Our rim protection and perimeter defenders have been so great."

Andrew Bogut blocked five shots in Game 2 and the Warriors squeezed seven turnovers out of James, who made just 7 of 17 shots. Coach Tyronn Lue has tried a number of different lineups looking for a spark, but has come up empty against a Warriors defense that is equipped to handle anything.

"They were tougher than us and more aggressive," Lue said.

For two years now the Warriors have heard criticism that they are just a finesse team, that they are just jump-shooters benefiting from the league's current hands-off rules. That they are a team that wouldn't hold up in the tougher eras of yesteryear against Jordan's Bulls or Bird's Celtics or Magic's Lakers.

But what they've shown in these Finals, in overwhelming the Cavaliers, is that they are so much tougher than some of the ornery old-timers give them credit for.

Two more victories would put the Warriors in the conversation for the best team ever. But that conversation already started in the postgame press conference after their 33-point win in Game 2.

Love travels with Cavs, status for rest of finals unclear

CLEVELAND (AP)—Kevin Love was cleared to fly. His playing status remains up in the air.

Cleveland's forward, who sustained a concussion in the first half Sunday in a Game 2 NBA Finals loss to Golden State, traveled with his teammates on Monday as they regrouped. A Cavs spokesman said in an email that Love was on the team's flight from San Francisco to Cleveland.

It's not yet known if Love, who dislocated his left shoulder in the first round of last year's playoffs and missed the finals, will play again in the series. He is following the NBA's protocol on concussions, which requires that he's symptom free and passes certain requirements before he can be cleared by a physician to return to the court.

Game 3 is Wednesday night. The loss of Love is another blow to the Cavs, who have been outclassed by the defending champion Warriors as Golden State appears in complete control of the series.

Love was inadvertently struck in the back of his head in the second quarter by Golden State forward Harrison Barnes while fighting for a rebound. Love immediately fell to the floor and grabbed his head as play continued. Draymond Green then scored on a layup and had to avoid landing on a prone Love.

The three-time All-Star was taken to the bench and checked by a Cavs trainer before returning to the game and making a 3-pointer. However, Love appeared dazed while playing defense in the third quarter and removed himself. He walked under his own power to Cleveland's locker room for more tests and observation. He did not return, finishing with 5 points on 2 of 7 shooting with three rebounds in 21 minutes.

While it seemed the sight of Love clutching his head and writing in discomfort would be enough to keep him sidelined, he was allowed to play again. Following the game, the Cavs explained the process that led to his return, releasing statement to say Love "did not exhibit any signs or symptoms during the first half, or at halftime, that would have caused him to be placed in the concussion protocol prior to the third quarter."

Cavs coach Tyronn Lue said he wasn't aware how badly Love was injured.

"I didn't even know what happened, but at halftime he showed no symptoms," Lue said. "He didn't talk about it. Then when we came back out in the third quarter, I could see in a timeout he looked kind of woozy."

If Love can't play, Lue has several options. He could go with a bigger starting lineup and play center Timofey Mozgov, moving Tristan Thompson to power forward alongside LeBron James. He could also stay with a smaller starting group and play Channing Frye, who has played sparingly so far in the series, in Love's spot.

Beltran's 3-run HR in 8th lifts Yanks vs Angels

NEW YORK (AP)—Ideally, Carlos Beltran says, the New York Yankees want to string good at-bats and bunch together some runs.

"The plan isn't to go out and hit homers. It's a terrible plan," he said, adding, "but tonight it worked out for us."

Beltran hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning after Brian McCann and Starlin Castro launched back-to-back shots in the seventh, rallying the Yankees past the Los Angeles Angels 5-2 Monday night.

"There's power in this offense," manager Joe Girardi said. "They can do it, and do it quickly."

The Yankees returned from a 4-6 road trip by beating the Angels for the sixth straight time at home.

Beltran was the first batter Jose Alvarez faced after relieving starter Matt Shoemaker. Two-out singles by Jacoby Ellsbury and Brett Gardner prompted the Angels to go to their bullpen.

Turned around to the right side, the switch-hitting Beltran went the opposite way for his team-leading 14th homer.

"We were feeling good the whole night. That one inning, a couple of homers," Angels star Mike Trout said.

Andrew Miller (3-0) struck out Kole Calhoun, Trout and Albert Pujols in order in the eighth. Aroldis Chapman, who blew a save chance for the first time this season Sunday in Baltimore, quickly returned to form and pitched a perfect ninth for his 10th save.

Shoemaker (3-7) blanked the Yankees on four hits and hadn't even gone to a three-ball count until the sudden power surge in the seventh. McCann hooked a long drive just foul on a 3-2 pitch, then hit the next delivery into the second deck.

Two pitches later, Castro connected for the Yankees' fourth set of consecutive home runs this season.

Shoemaker stuck out six, and has fanned 39 without a walk in five starts.

"There's no doubt, he was dominating us," Beltran said.

Pujols blooped an RBI single in the first against Masahiro Tanaka. Calhoun added a sacrifice fly in the third for a 2-0 lead.

Both the Angels and Yankees began the day 26-30. For teams often in the playoffs, this was the latest they'd met in a season with below-.500 records since August 1992.

AP

Jacoby Ellsbury (22) attempts to steal second during the first inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Angels at Yankee Stadium in New York, Monday, June 6, 2016.

Cubs 6, Phillies 4

In Philadelphia, Jon Lester pitched eight scoreless innings, Jason Heyward hit a two-run homer and the Chicago Cubs held off the Philadelphia Phillies.

Lester (7-3) improved to 6-0 in eight career starts against the Phillies while lowering his ERA against them to 1.46. He struck out nine, walked none and allowed four hits.

Kris Bryant, Anthony Rizzo and Dexter Fowler each had three hits for the Cubs, who won their 11th in 13 games while extending their best start since 1900 to a major league-leading 40-16. Chicago moved 10 games in front of second-place Pittsburgh in the NL Central.

Tigers 11, Blue Jays 0

In Detroit, Michael Fulmer allowed two singles over six innings in another outstanding performance, and Justin Upton and James McCann homered to lift Detroit over Toronto.

Fulmer (6-1) has won four consecutive starts. The rookie struck out five and walked three in his third straight without allowing a run. Detroit has won four in a row.

Orioles 4, Royals 1

In Baltimore, Mark Trumbo and Matt Wieters hit solo homers in the seventh inning to back a sparkling pitching performance by Mike Wright, and Baltimore extended Kansas City's losing streak to five games.

Manny Machado also homered for the Orioles, who have won five of six -- all in come-from-behind fashion.

Rays 6, Diamondbacks 4

In Phoenix, Desmond Jennings had three hits, including a home run, and Tim Beckham also went deep to power the Tampa Bay Rays past the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Chris Archer (4-7) struck out 12 over six innings for the Rays, who have won four straight. Archer allowed three runs, five hits and three walks in his first win since May 17.

Rangers 6, Astros 5

In Arlington, the Houston Astros are still winless against the Texas Rangers this season.

Right after a potential inning-ending double play became only a fielder's choice, Rougned Odor ended the game with an RBI double off the left-field wall to give Texas.

Houston is 0-7 against the AL West-leading Rangers this season and has lost 11 consecutive road games against its instate rival.

Padres 7, Braves 2

In San Diego, Yangervis Solarte hit a three-run homer and Matt Kemp drove in two runs to lead the San Diego Padres to a victory in a matchup of last-place teams.

The Braves lost their fifth straight game and dropped to 16-41, worst in the majors. The Padres improved to 24-35.

Solarte homered to right field off Williams Perez (2-2) with one out in the third inning, his fourth.

Rockies 6, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Colorado Rockies right-hander Tyler Chatwood is proving unbeatable on the road.

Chatwood pitched eight strong innings, Trevor Story and Gerardo Parra homered and the Rockies held the Los Angeles Dodgers to one hit.

Chatwood (7-4) kept up his road dominance this season by limiting Los Angeles to only Howie Kendrick's second-inning single. He struck out five and walked four.

Indians 3, Mariners 1

In Seattle, Trevor Bauer pitched 7 1/3 strong innings and Rajah Davis homered to lead the Cleveland Indians to their sixth straight victory with a win over the Seattle Mariners.

Bauer (4-2) gave up one run while scattering five hits. He walked one and struck out 10 to earn his first victory since May 10. Bryan Shaw got the final two outs in the eighth and Cody Allen worked the ninth to pick up his 12th save in 13 opportunities.

Broncos, Miller closing in on record deal

DENVER— The Denver Broncos and Von Miller appear to be closing in on a long-term contract. And some opposing general managers think it's going to be a record-setter.

Miller expressed confidence toward a new deal following the Broncos' visit to the White House on Monday, saying he and the team had "made real progress over the last couple of days."

"I'm very optimistic about the whole thing," Miller told reporters. "I remain optimistic about everything."

Broncos coach Gary Kubiak also indicated progress had been made in an interview with the NFL Network, but neither Kubiak or Miller fleshed out how close the two sides have come. That hasn't dampened expectations. Two opposing general managers told Yahoo Sports on Monday that they expect Miller's deal will match or exceed the contract reached by Miami Dolphins defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh. In 2015, Suh signed the richest deal ever for a defensive player in the NFL, a six-year pact for $114.375 million. While league sources said in April that Miller was seeking as much as $22 million per season, it was believed the negotiation would ultimately boil down to territory closer to Suh's deal. Denver has positioned its salary cap outlook to pull that off, thanks to a massive amount of cap space heading into next offseason.

Perhaps most intriguing, the Broncos may ultimately end up serving both the short and long term with Miller's deal. Denver's cap situation is so flexible moving forward, the franchise could sign Miller to a frontloaded deal and open up financial flexibility further down the line, which could then be used to sign or extend a franchise quarterback deeper into Miller's next contract. As it stands, the Broncos have designated Miller as an exclusive rights franchise player but he hasn't signed the one-year tender tied to that tag, which amounts to a one-year deal at $14.129 million. Miller also hasn't taken part in Denver's offseason program as his extension has been negotiated.

Multiple league sources said in April that Denver didn't want to put Miller into Suh's contract territory with his extension, but that was before the Broncos addressed the future of their quarterback position by drafting Paxton Lynch in the first round. At the time, the San Francisco 49ers' Colin Kaepernick was still an option despite Denver's insistence that his salary be adjusted. The selection of Lynch effectively takes the quarterback position into a much cheaper direction for the interim, allowing the Broncos to invest cap room into other players while Lynch is still on his rookie deal.

From a cap perspective, it could be argued that the Broncos have managed their offseason with an eye on this very moment, signing Miller to a big extension but structuring it in a way that gives the team quarterback options later in his deal. That would be the payoff for a bumpy offseason of free-agent losses, cost-cutting measures and some aggressive contract maneuvers. All of which have left the Broncos with plenty of cap space at their disposal at this juncture. With the cap expected to grow another $10 million to $15 million next offseason, Denver could be positioned to be one of the big spenders next offseason, with potentially as much as $60 million in space. But a portion of that is expected to be used for extensions now, including those of Miller, linebacker Brandon Marshall and wideout Emmanuel Sanders.

Messi-less Argentina defeats Chile

AP

Chile's Mauricio Isla, left, and Argentina's Nicolas Gaitan, fight for the ball during a Copa America Centenario Group A soccer match at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif., Monday June 6, 2016.

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP)—On the day his grandmother died back home, Angel Di Maria's mother asked him to stay with his team, stay focused, and represent his country well in Copa America.

He made them all proud with a gutsy performance.

Di Maria scored in the 51st minute off a pass from Ever Banega, then later assisted on Banega's goal, and top-ranked Argentina looked plenty powerful without injured captain Lionel Messi in beating Chile 2-1 in its Copa America opener Monday night.

After his goal, Di Maria held up a shirt reading "Grandma, I'll miss you very much."

"I am so happy because I was able to score. It was for my grandmother and my family that are having a difficult time," Di Maria said. "In the morning when I knew what happened I knew that I would score today, and that happened, and it was for her. I was afraid of not playing, but if I didn't play, my grandma was going to get mad."

His coach didn't even know until afterward and was impressed with Di Maria's poise given the emotional day.

"Those are very important circumstances and aspects of life that transcend football," Gerardo Martino said. "He didn't tell me anything. He was feeling good to play. Not all people respond the same in those situations."

Di Maria assisted on Banega's deflected goal in the 59th minute as Messi cheered from the bench.

Jose Pedro Fuenzalida scored in the third minute of stoppage time as Chile avoided a shutout.

There were five yellow cards issued in a testy rematch of last year's final won by La Roja on penalty kicks. Cards were given to Di Maria and Gary Medel in the 65th minute after they tussled near the left sideline of Argentina's offensive half.

Chile's Eugenio Mena was taken off on a stretcher in the 53rd minute after pulling up and appearing to grab his right hamstring, with no contact made.

Playing at home last year, Chile beat Argentina and Messi 4-1 on penalty kicks for La Roja's first Copa championship. Argentina's senior team has not won a major title since the 1993 Copa, losing to Germany in the 2014 World Cup final.

Argentina beat Chile 2-1 in World Cup qualifying in Santiago on March 24.

Monday's match in the San Francisco 49ers' $1.3 billion stadium attracted a sellout crowd of 69,45—outdrawing the Friday opener in which Colombia beat the United States 2-0 and a crowd of 67,439 was announced.

Both teams had good chances in a fast-paced first half featuring two yellow cards against Chile.

Nicolas Gaitan had a header from 8 yards in the second minute that Chile goalkeeper Johnny Herrera punched over the crossbar.

In the 18th minute, Gaitan—starting in place of Messi—went down hard and his right knee buckled after a tackle from behind by Arturo Vidal that earned him a yellow card.

Gonzalo Higuain's shot from the left side in the box went just left off the post in the 23rd minute, then Argentina had another chance thwarted on Marcos Rojo's header off a corner kick.

La Albiceleste goalkeeper Mariano Andujar made a great diving stop in the 30th minute, using his right hand to swat away a shot by Alexis Sanchez after a pair of pretty passes from Marcelo Diaz and Vidal, prompting Messi to clap on the bench.

"The team is different if Messi is playing or not," Chile coach Juan Antonio Pizzi said. "Messi's probably more dangerous than any other soccer player. That's an advantage we had. But the player who replaced Messi, Gaitan, played well. He has other virtues, other characteristics. He helped them have a better structure and made them a solid team. They were able to take advantage of their opportunity."

The news about Messi not starting was hardly a surprise given the 28-year-old Barcelona star's recent back injury. The midfielder practiced on the side during Sunday's training and not with the full team.

US facing crucial game against Costa Rica

CHICAGO (AP)—For all the talk about possession, solid defense and offensive chances, the U.S. men's national team needs a win to validate the positive vibes coming from its camp.

And everyone knows it.

"The result is always the most important thing at the end of the day," coach Jurgen Klinsmann said.

The result of the United States' opener in the Copa America Centario was a 2-0 loss to Colombia on Friday that ramped up the importance of Tuesday night's game with Costa Rica. The Ticos played a scoreless draw with Paraguay on Saturday night, so a winner in the all-CONCACAF matchup at Soldier Field moves into an ideal position to grab one of two spots in the knockout round coming out of Group A.

The United States warmed up for a rare appearance in South America's championship with May victories over Puerto Rico, Ecuador and Bolivia by a combined score of 8-1. But it got mixed reviews for its Copa opener against Colombia, one of the top teams in the world.

The U.S. had good possession numbers, but a defensive lapse by Geoff Cameron left Cristian Zapata open on a corner kick, and DeAndre Yedlin was whistled for a hand ball that set up James Rodriguez's penalty kick for Colombia's second goal.

It was more than enough to put away the Americans.

"If you base everything just by result, then it was a negative start," Klinsmann said. "But the performance was a good performance. We went through that game again. We talked the team through that game as well, and it was a lot of good stuff coming out of that game, which makes us very positive going into the next game, which is a very tough Costa Rican team that we all know, that we all respect."

The loss generated more criticism of the 51-year-old Klinsmann, who said last month that the Copa objective for the U.S. was the semifinals. But captain Michael Bradley brushed away any outside analysis before Monday's practice at the home of the NFL's Bears.

"We've got much bigger things to worry about than what goes on on the outside," he said. "I think since I've been on this team one of its strengths has always been the ability to respond on big days and be able to close the door, know who we are, know what needs to be better, understand that we're still good and get ready for whatever comes next. And obviously that's what we need to do tomorrow night."

The U.S. is unbeaten in its last 15 home matches against Costa Rica in official competitions, dating to 1989. It is 13-14-6 against the Ticos, with each of the 13 wins coming on U.S. soil.

But Costa Rica's defensive style could present problems for the U.S. after it failed to score against Colombia, even with the Ticos missing Kendall Waston after a red card against Paraguay.

YANKEES

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Braves' hopes to grab the upper hand, going into the bottom of the seventh.

The Yankees had a bad start in the last inning with M.J. Sakisat grounding out at third. Brel was the next batter and moved to first off James Kintaro's error and then stole second. Secharmidal singled and also stole second, while Brel advanced to third. The bases were then loaded with Tenorio walking and Brel eventually scored the winning run off Peyton Lizama's base hit.

With the loss, the Braves had to face the third-ranked Enforcers for the second and last finals berth.

A six-run top of the first allowed the Enforcers to control the rubber match and they held on against the Braves' late rally. Nate Camacho stood out in the Enforcers' good start, hitting a two-run single and also scoring off the Braves' error at centerfield. Bradley Lieto added an RBI single and also reached, while Jhace Palacios posted the Enforcer's first run off a miscue by the Braves shorts stop. The Enforcers added another run in the fifth inning off one more error of the Braves at centerfield.

The Braves, on the other hand, were held to one run in the first four innings before mounting a comeback in the last three, scoring four runs, but still fell short in the end.

PADDLERS

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1,000m events that took place last May 21.

Not to be outdone were the club's women's paddlers Krista Falig, Laarni Zapanta, Lucy Santos, Rica Concepcion, Sandy Leon Guerrero, and Gerlyn Libunao, who were selected Female Athletes of the Month for topping the 250m and 500m races in the Inaugural Women's Health Month's paddling competition held in the waters at the back of Sandy Beach Homes. Falig and company are newcomers to the sport, but managed to pull off surprises against veteran paddlers.

Meanwhile, the Sonics' Jester Kintaro and the Ol'Aces and Ghasias Brothers' Douglas Schmidt were awarded the Male Student Athlete of the Month and Male Athlete of the Month plums, respectively.

Kintaro suited up for the Sonics' U15 and U18 teams that played in the Inaugural Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League. He towed the Sonics to the title win against the Ol'Aces in the U15 finale and led the division in blocks and rebounds department. The Sonics was eventually named regular season MVP and made it to the Mythical Team. In the U18 division, he was also the leader in blocks and helped the Sonics reach he semifinal round.

Schmidt, on the other hand, played in two different leagues. In the 2016 Island-wide Men's Basketball League, he was with the Ol'Aces and was instrumental in the team's regular season sweep (9-0). He led majority of the statistics in the island-wide caging, making him the new marked man in the basketball leagues on Saipan.

The former Palau national team member also saw action in the DL Sports Association Invitational Basketball League Season 5 and brought Ghasias Brothers to the finals opposite the San Antonio Patriots. Ghasias absorbed a sorry 78-79 loss in the finale, but not until Schmidt anchored the team's recovery from a 20-plus point deficit. He finished the game with 44 points and also had 40-plus out in four other games in the league.

LEE

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ranked Kamoe and Shannon are scheduled to battle the No. 1 seeded pair of Helen Parsons and Nicole Sewell of Australia today, while Lee and Heras will play Bouttier and Moto for the third place honors. The Aussie bets took the finals berth at the upper half of the draw after sweeping Moto and Bouttier, 6-2, 6-2.

Lee and Heras also competed in the singles event with the former making it to the quarterfinals and the latter faltering in her first round game. Lee downed Tapusoa, 6-2, 6-1, to march into the Round of 8, but missed on her semis bid after bowing to the third-ranked Sewell in three hard-fought sets, 2-6, 6-4, 6-10. Heras played an extended game, too, before losing to Coffin, 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-10.

Lee is set to challenge Schuster today with the winner meeting the victor of the Mulan Kamoe-Banimataku tiff for fifth place. Heras, on the other hand, fell to the loser's bracket and will duel either Maucotel or Marie Liwuslili, also of Vanuatu, for the title game in the consolation draw.

Junior League Playoff Games

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Falcons' Spencer Dickinson, left, attempts to run to home plate during their playoff game against the Kagman Enforcers in the Junior League division of the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball last week at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Falcons' Tyrese Camacho delivers a pitch.

A Red Sox batter waits for the pitch from the Braves' Josenio Alvarez.

Kagman Enforcers' Pedro Maratita gets ready to pitch.

The Braves second baseman catches the ball, while a Red Sox runner heads to second.

Falcons catcher Arby Yaguel tags out a Kagman Enforcers runner.

A Braves pitcher in action against the Red Sox.

Falcons coaches talk to their players before heading out to the field.

Kagman Enforcers players and coaches huddle before the start of the top of the fifth inning of their game against the Falcons.

Curry won't be on US Olympic team in Rio

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Lee, Heras make semis in Oceania tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI junior players Carol Lee and Isabel Heras had a strong showing in the 2016 Punjas Oceania Tennis Championships in Suva, Fiji after advancing to the semifinals of both the team event and the doubles competition.

In the team event, the Commonwealth bets finished second in Group B to move into the Final Four. Lee and Heras earned a 2-1 mark in the pool play after winning over the Solomon Islands' Georjemah Row and Vinda Teally last Thursday, 3-0, 6-0, 24-4, and against Vanuatu's Lorraine Banimataku and Emma Maucotel last Friday, 2-1, 5-2, 25-16. The CNMI junior players also dueled Fiji Team 1's Ruby Coffin and Mulan Kamoa last Thursday and lost, 0-6, 3-6, 7-24, to settle for the second spot in the group.

With their runner-up finish in Group B's elimination, Heras and Lee were pitted against the No. 1 seed Australia in the semifinals with the Land Down Under players winning last Saturday's playoff game, 3-0, 6-0, 24-5. The other Final Four pairing had the second-ranked Fiji Team 1 defeating the No. 3 pick New Caledonia, 3-0, 6-0, 24-8. Australia went on to beat Fiji in the finals, 2-0, 4-0, 16-6, while the CNMI fell short in its bid to take the bronze medal in the team event after losing to New Caledonia's Lysiane Moto and Nikita Bouttier in the consolation match last Saturday, 2-1, 4-4, 22-18.

In the women's doubles, Lee and Heras were seeded fourth in the nine-team field and won against Samoa's Lyla Tapusoa and Eleanor Schuster, 6-0, 6-4, to gain a semis entry at the lower half of the draw. In the Final Four, the two CNMI players faced Fiji's Tarani Kamoe and Annie Shannon, who notched a 6-2, 7-5 victory to eliminate their foes. The second-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Carol Lee, seen here going for a baseline return during an ITF Juniors event on Saipan last month, and Isabel Heras made it to the semis of both the team event and singles competition in the 2016 Punjas Oceania Tennis Championships in Suva, Fiji.

SPC paddlers, cagers take May top honors

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

ATHLETES of the MONTH

Paddlers and basketball players made Northern Marianas Sports Association's honor roll for May.

Catherine Reyes, Juannie Tenorio, Josephine and Jaeda Aguon, Newlyn Jeter, Deanna Kapileo, and Kalea Andrew of Saipan Paddling Club's junior team were named NMSA/TSL Foundation Female Student Athletes of the Month for their outstanding showing in last month's All CNMI Juniors Outrigger Regatta 2016.

The seven-women crew won the 250m and 500m races of the first leg of the youth tournament held last May 14 at Kilili Beach and had another sweep in the second and final phase of the competition, prevailing in the 500m and

See PADDLERS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The 670 Sonics' Jester Kintaro, center, battles a teammate and a Wong player for the rebound during their playoff game in the U15 division of the Diaz youth caging last month at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Yankees vs Islanders in Big League finals

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Islanders' Jhace Palacios delivers a pitch to a Braves batter during the top of the second inning of their playoff game in the Big League division of the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Yankees and the Islanders set up their title duel for the Big League division championship in the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball after eliminating the Braves in the playoff games over the weekend at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The finals was played last night.

The pennant champion Yankees defeated the Braves last Saturday, 6-5, to notch the first finals berth. The Braves went back to the "Tan Ko" field the following day for another chance to make it to the championship game, but suffered another sorry loss at the hands of the Islanders, who pulled off a 7-5 victory.

In the Yankees-Braves tiff, Peyton Lizama delivered the winning hit, as his single at the bottom of the seventh inning brought Jesse Brel home. Lizama hit the dagger with the Yankees having only one out and the bases loaded.

Lizama's RBI single also came after the Yankees went without a single run in the fifth and sixth, while the Braves got three in the last two to force a deadlock. The Braves, earlier, in the first inning, had two runs, but were shut down in the next four to face a 2-5 deficit. A four-run bottom of the first gave the Yankees the early lead with Roke Tenorio and Peyton Lizama each nailing an RBI single and also reaching home off a fielder's choice and a sacrifice out, respectively. The Yankees' fifth run came in the fourth off Alden Ngeskebei's RBI single, giving the eventual first finalists cushion, going into the last two inning.

In the penultimate inning, the Braves scored one run to bring the deficit down to two and then tied the match at the top of the seventh and last inning as Kiku Lizama made an RBI single and A.J. Evangelista reached off a Yankees' miscue. After the tie, the Braves had a chance to steal the lead, as they had only two outs and there were runners on first and second base. However, Kiku Lizama was caught stealing third, ending the

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